ZETMAN

MASAKAZU KATSURA STUDIO K2R

桂正和

13



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ZETMAN［ゼットマン］

13

桂正和

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YJ ヤンジャン YJC

ZETMAN 13

Jin – thanks to the actions of a clone, falsely accused of bombing the Amagi mansion – is on the run. Escaping his pursuers with Kouga, what will they find waiting for them...? As their friendship deepens, Christmas Eve arrives along with something terrible...

ZETMAN

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STUDIO K2R

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MASAKAZU KATSURA
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C O N T E N T S

Chapter 145
AFTER-EFFECTS 3

Chapter 146
DISCORD 20

Chapter 147
SHIBAKI'S LAST WILL 35

Chapter 148
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT 49

Chapter 149
THE JIROU INCIDENT 64

Chapter 150
THE PAST IS ALWAYS... 80

Chapter 151
WHAT THE HELL? 95

Chapter 152
BIRD WITH A BROKEN WING 111

Chapter 153
JUSTICE FREAK 126

Chapter 154
KOUGA & MAYU 139

Chapter 155
JIN & HANAKO 155

Chapter 156
TV-JACKED 172

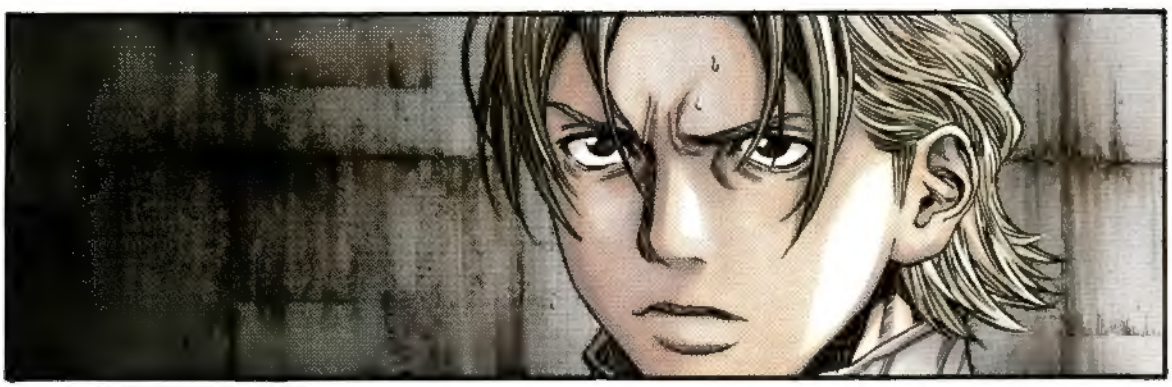
Book 5 - World Domination

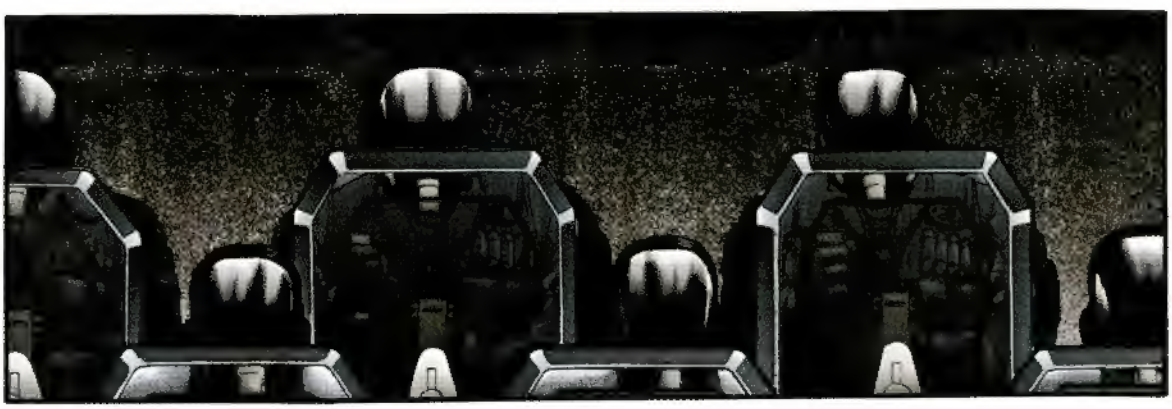
Chapter 157
DECLARATION OF WAR 194

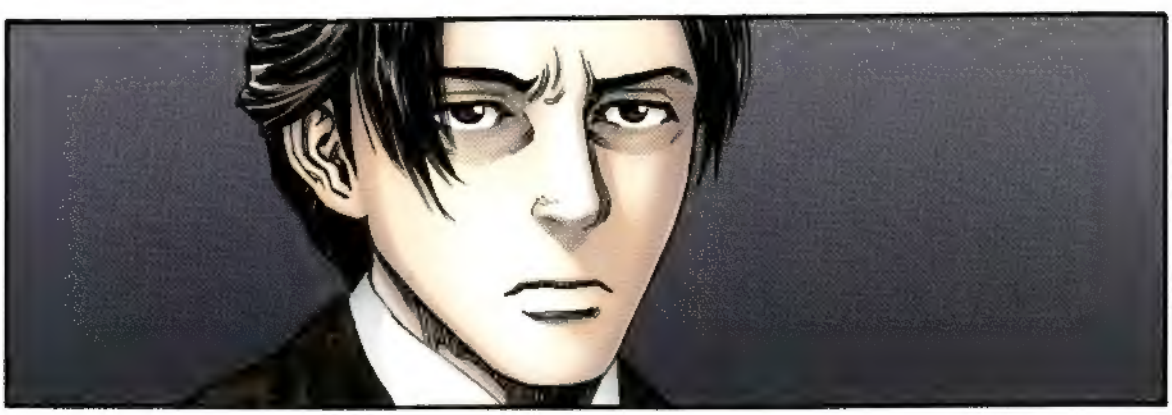
Chapter 158
DUMBFOUNDED AUDIENCE 211

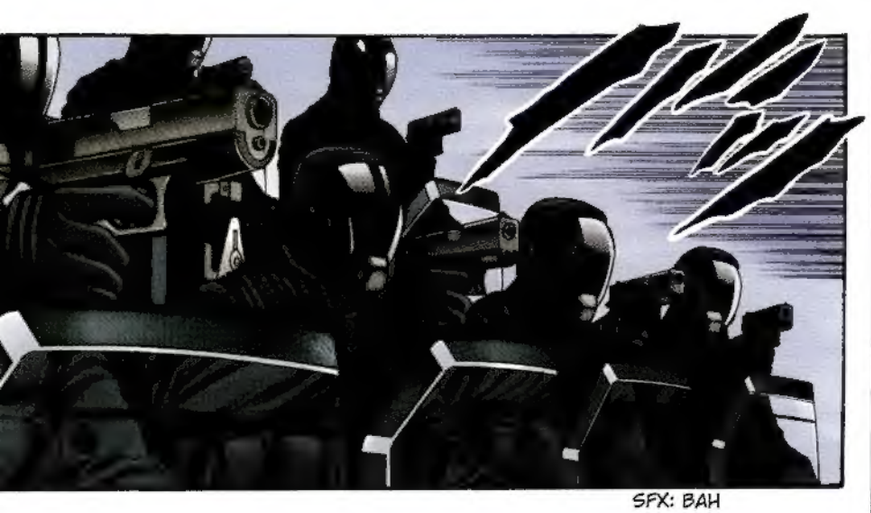
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Chapter 145
(AFTER-EFFECTS)





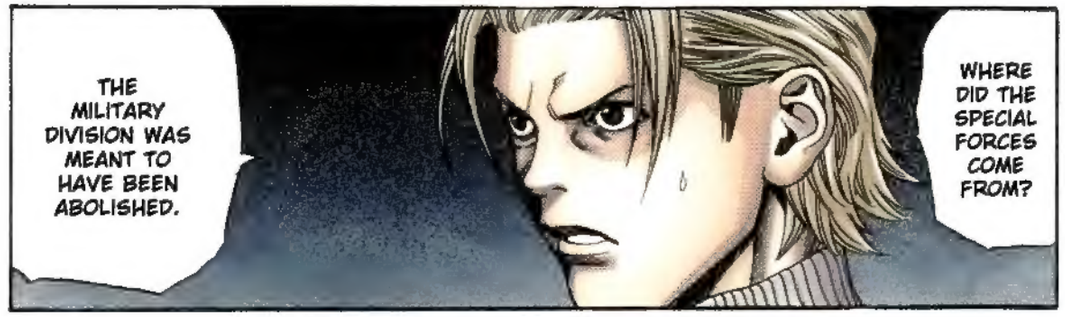




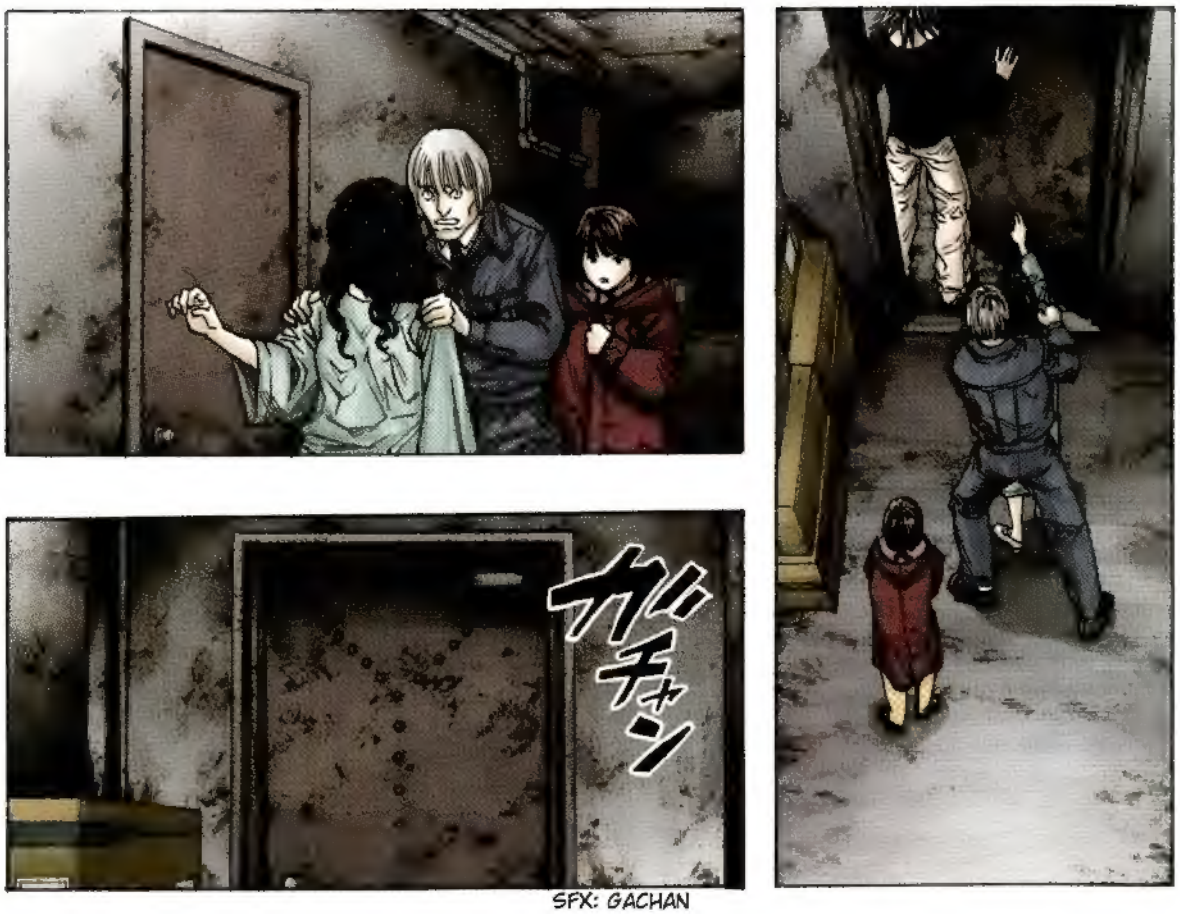
SFX: BAH


...


OH.
DO YOU FEEL LIKE RESISTING, BLACK SUITS A AND B? WE'RE MORE THAN HAPPY TO USE FORCE.


THE MILITARY DIVISION WAS MEANT TO HAVE BEEN ABOLISHED.
WHERE DID THE SPECIAL FORCES COME FROM?


IT WAS. BUT THERE WAS A REORG TO BRING TOGETHER TALENT.
INCLUDING THE ALFASZ PROJECT TEAM.
AND, THEY ALL REPORT TO ME.



SFX: GACHAN



SFX: ZAH


SFX: KOTSU KOTSU KOTSU
WH...
FATHER?
WE'RE ON ORDERS FROM THE CEO.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, WE'RE TAKING YOU IN.
SFX: ZAZAZA
SHIT... NOTHING FOR IT, HUH.
?
SFX: IIIIKI
SFX: IIIIII (CONTINUES TO NEXT PAGE)




!




HERE, I JUST BOUGHT YOU A NEW PHONE. LIFE'S HARD WHEN YOU CAN'T GET IN TOUCH.

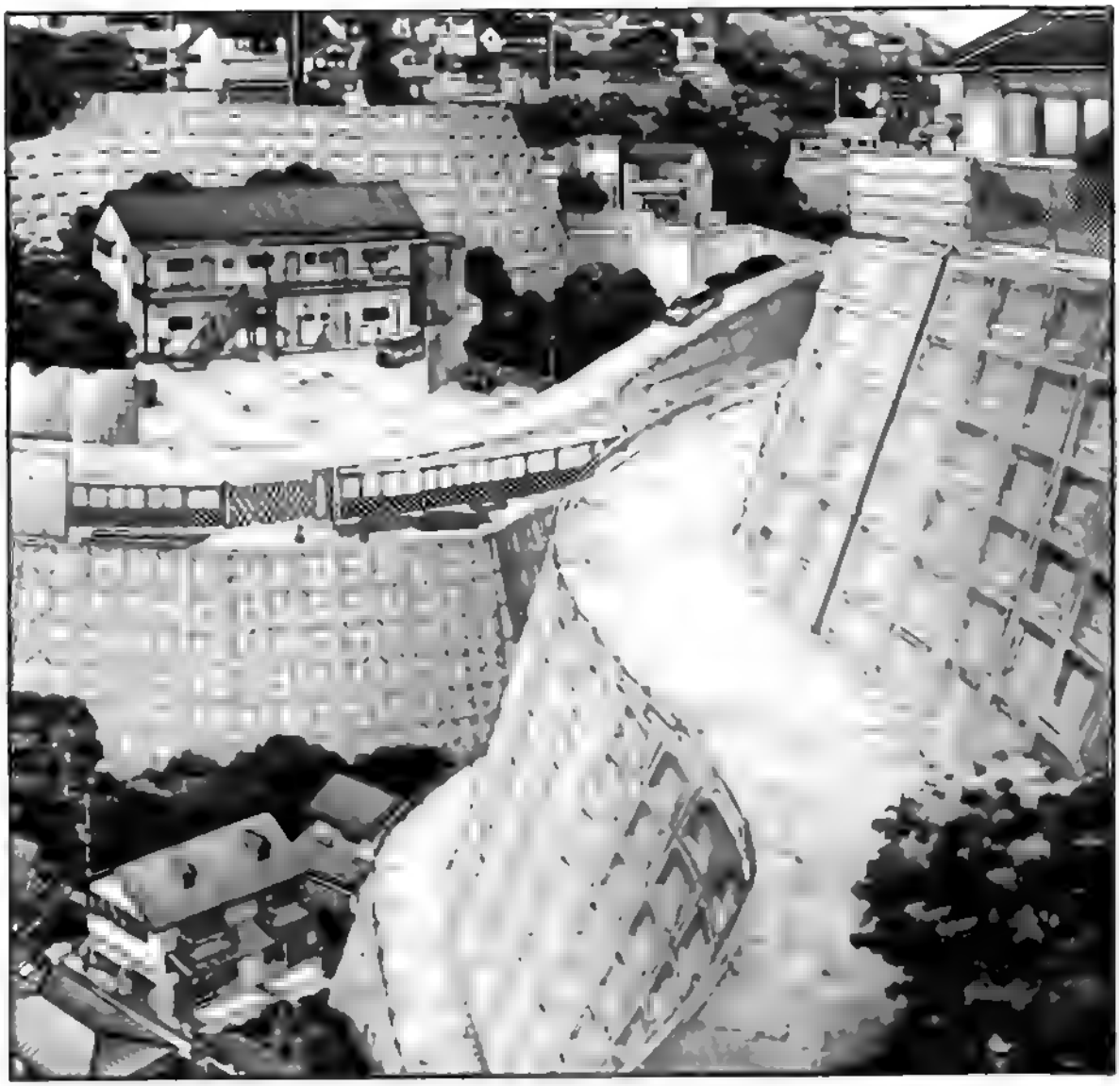

...


WH ... WHAT? WHAT HAP- PENED?
THAT'S MY LINE, JIN.

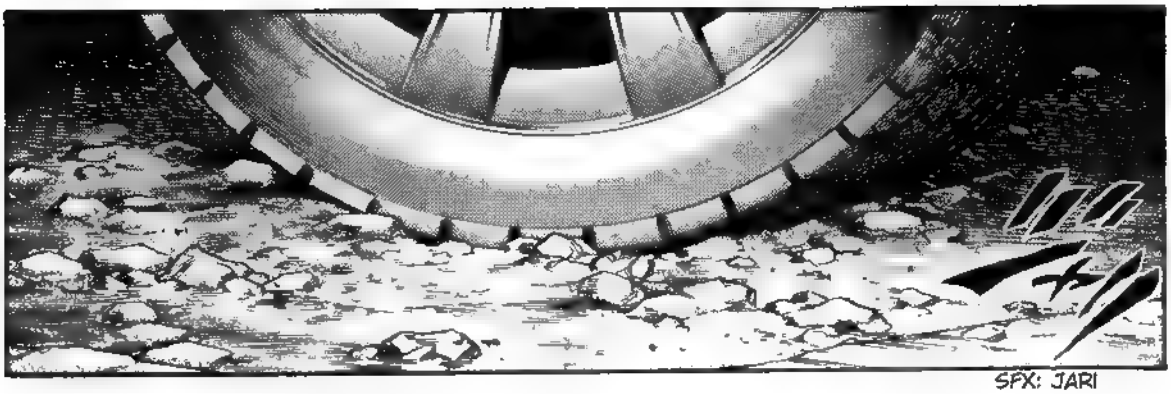

OK.
AND I GOT YOU THE SAME MODEL FOR EASE OF USE.
WHEN YOU LOSE SOMETHING, YOU JUST GOTTA BUY A NEW ONE. YOUR NUMBER'S THE SAME.
THEN YOU SUDDENLY BLACKED OUT. YOU SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF US
AND ALL WITHOUT KILLING ANYONE.
HEY, GOOD JOB BACK THERE. YOU SILENCED THE LOT OF THEM IN AN INSTANT.
IT WAS A PSEUDO-AWAKENING. YOU USED THE GUM, RIGHT?
...?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
I DIDN'T AWAKEN?


I DIDN'T DO SHIT...
AND I DIDN'T TAKE ANY GUM...
THERE'S A HOLE IN MY MEMORY...
...
I HIT YOU WITH A DRUG THAT REACTS BADLY TO YOUR GUM.
DON'T TELL ME THAT...
YOU'RE AMAZING! THE WAY THINGS WERE GOING THAT COULD HAVE BEEN A BLOODBATH.
...
THE OWNER IS GOING TO BE PRETTY DISTRESSED.
BUT... THE PROBLEM IS...
I KNOW WE HAD NO CHOICE, BUT WE STOLE THIS CAR.


THANK GOODNESS ...
JIN'S COME ROUND.
EH!?
WHAT'S THAT!?
KONOHA... YOU LIKE HIM DON'T YOU?
WELL, BE-CAUSE ..
WHY DOES EVERYONE SAY THAT?



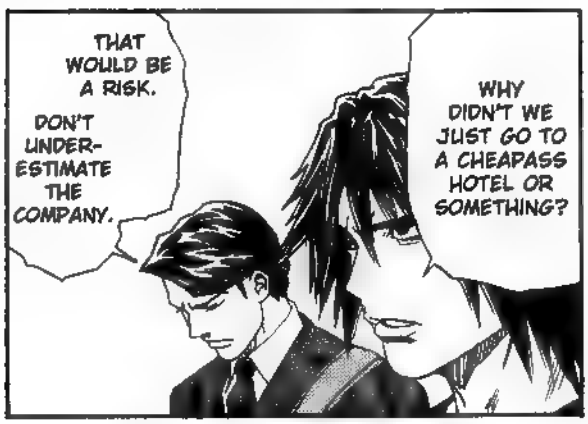




SFX: JARI

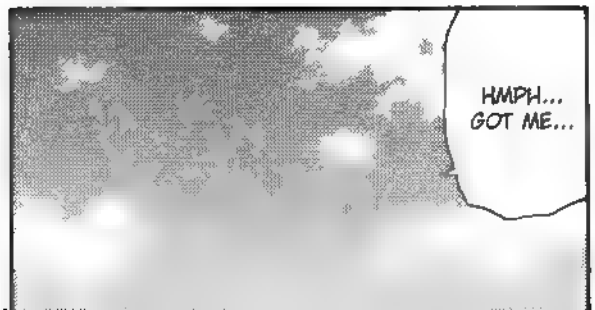


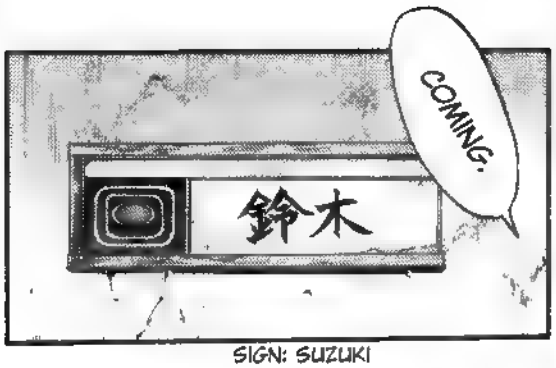
SFX: GACHA





SFX: BATAN BATAN

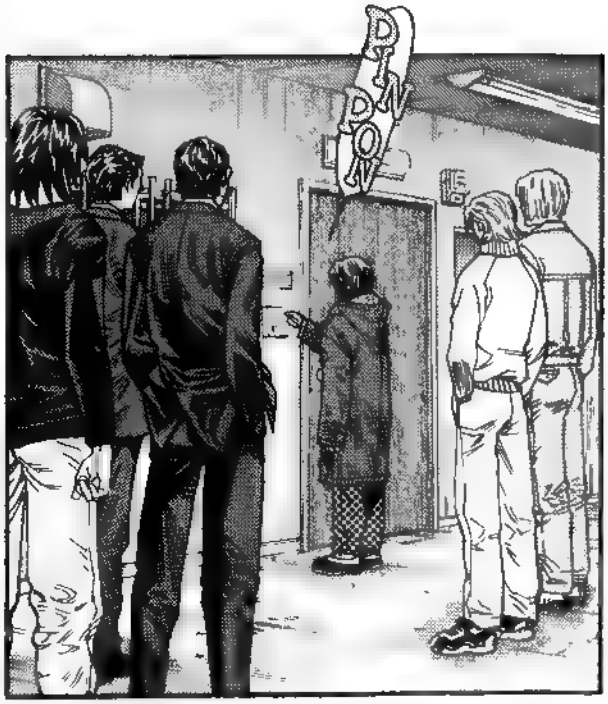


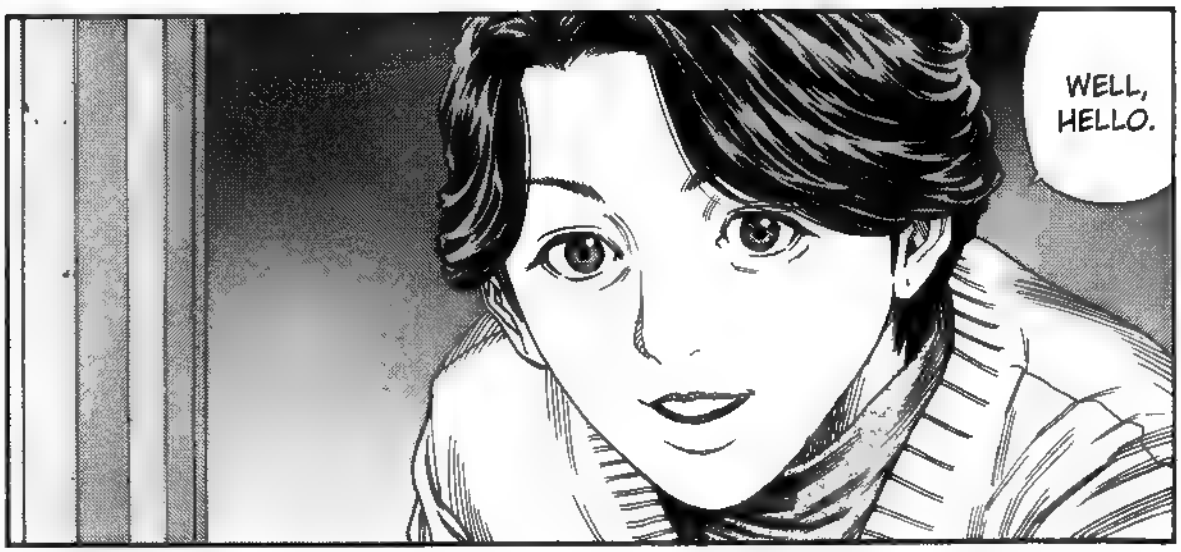


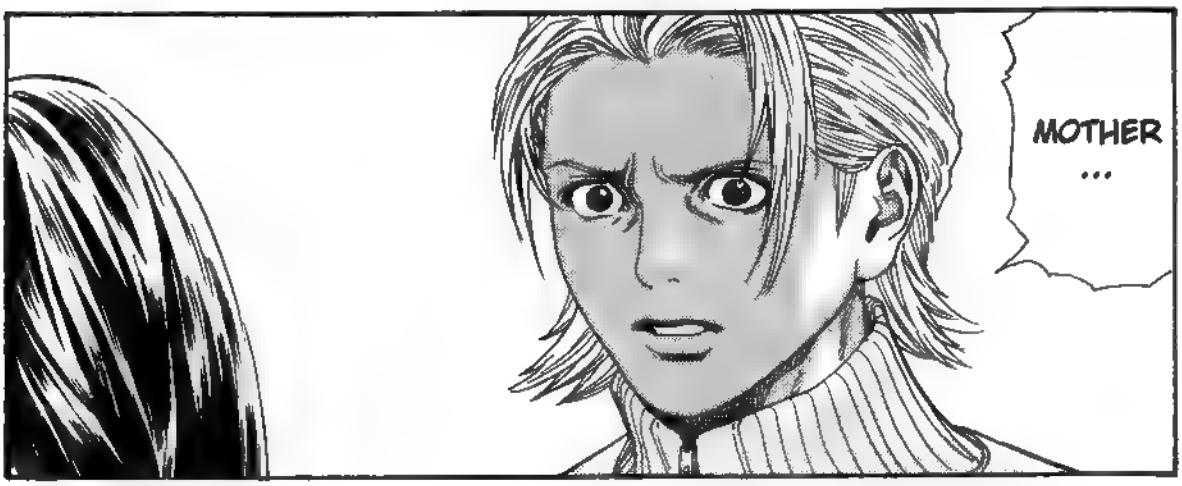
SIGN: SUZUKI



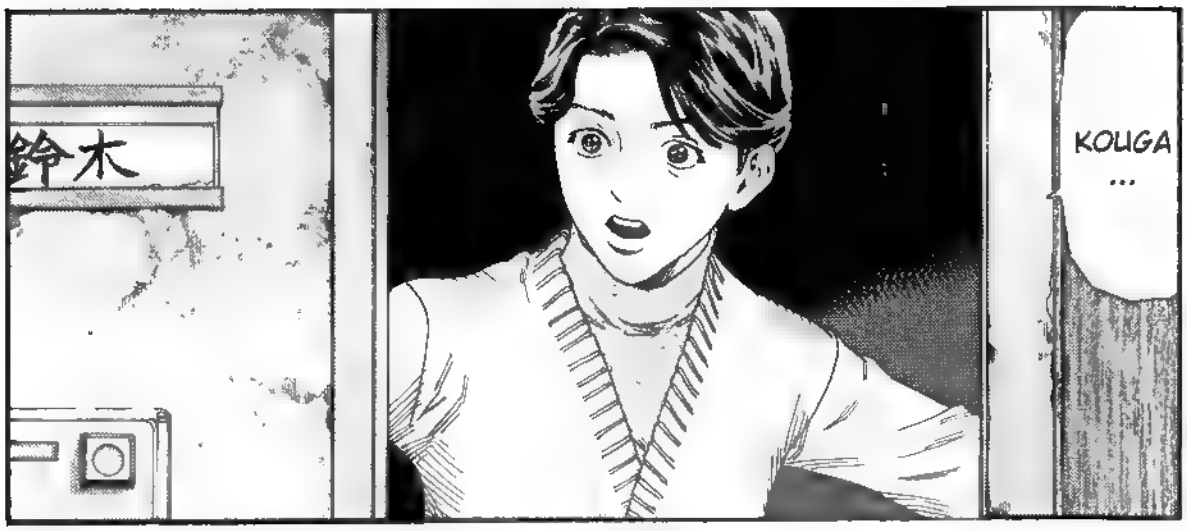
SFX: GACHA

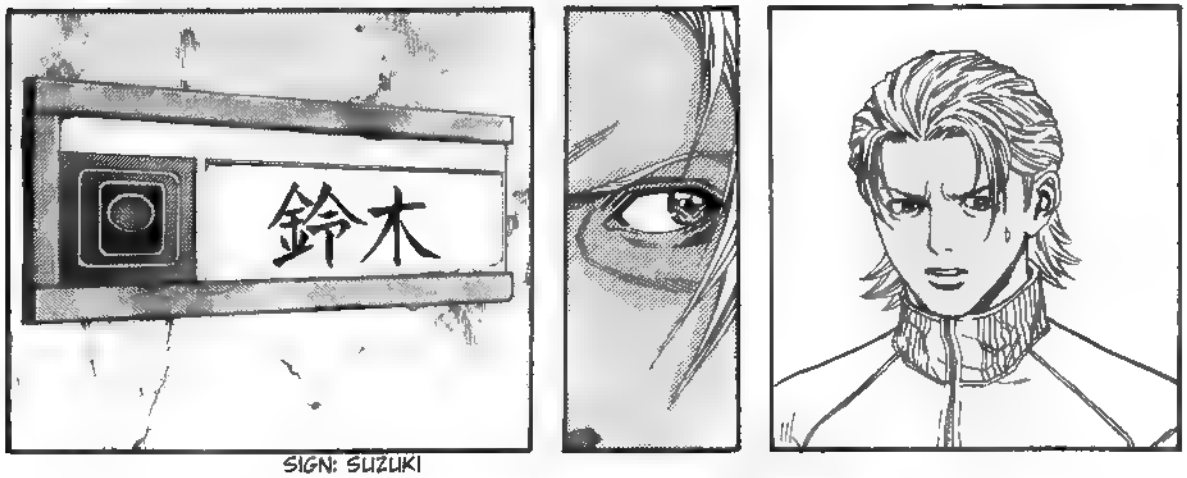






ZETMAN





SIGN: SUZUKI



SFX: ZAH


HE'S ANGRY WITH ME...
BRO-THER...
EXCUSE ME, COULD WE TALK?

Chapter 146
(DISCORD)








HAYAMI'S IDEA I SUPPOSE ...
...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THERE WAS A TRANS-MITTER IN MY PROS-THESIS.
YOU LOST THAT HAND IN THE JIROU INCIDENT.
OR AN ORDER FROM FATHER.
WHICH-EVER...
IT WAS A SHOCK TO LEARN I WAS BEING TRACKED...


THAT WAS THE RIGHT MOVE ACCORDING TO THE AMAGI RULEBOOK.
... CONSIDERING YOUR POSITION, IT SEEMS ONLY NATURAL.


HMPH ...


UNDERCOVER? WHO'S THE INVESTIGATOR WORKING FOR? AND WHAT'S THEIR NAME?


BACK TO THE JIROU INCIDENT... THERE'S AN UNDERCOVER PROBE ONGOING INTO WHO WOULD BE TARGETING THE PRESIDENT'S SON.


BUT WE HAVE ACCESS TO THE REPORTS.
WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO KNOW.


THEY SAY THEY'LL SOON BE ON THE TAIL OF "KATOU".


KATOU...


!


I CAN HARDLY WAIT.


APPARENTLY THIS APARTMENT BLOCK HAS A NUMBER OF VACANCIES. WE'LL GET JIN AND THE OTHERS TO STAY HERE FOR A WHILE.
BUT FOR TODAY, THEY'LL BE STAYING AT A SMALL GUEST HOUSE NEARBY.
I'M SORRY ...
...
YEAH, I GET IT.
THAT INCLUDES YOU.
YOU'RE GOING SHOPPING?
DO YOU HAVE CASH? YOU CAN'T USE CARDS...
RELAX.
WE HAVE SPECIAL UNTRACEABLE ONES.
WE'LL ARRANGE FOR SOME FURNITURE AND EVERYDAY STUFF.
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE, JUST LET US KNOW.

COME ON.

IT'S ON THE COMPANY.

...

BUT ...

I'D LIKE A FASHIONABLE SUIT PREPARED FOR TOMORROW NIGHT.

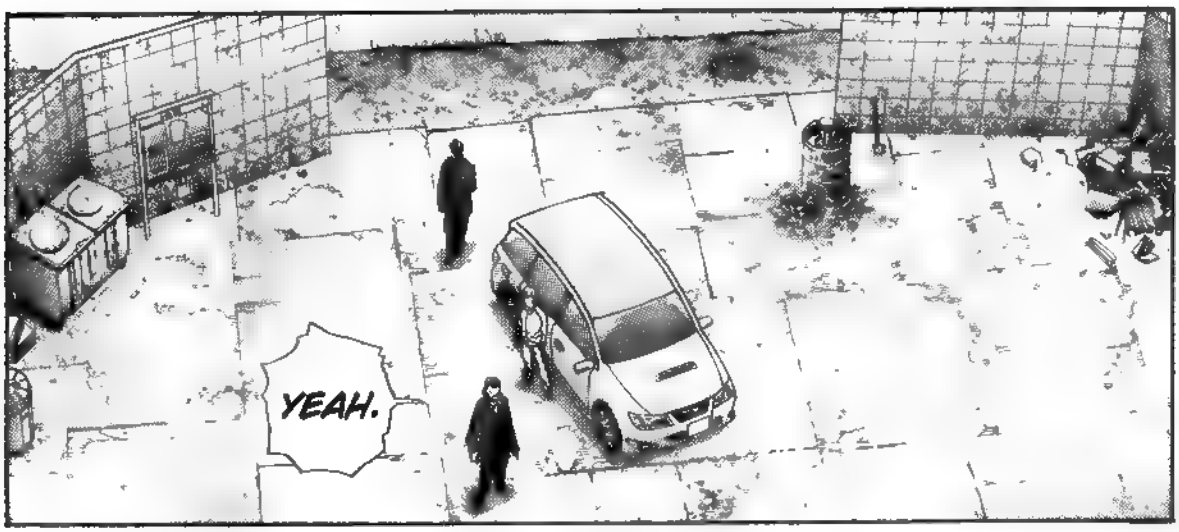
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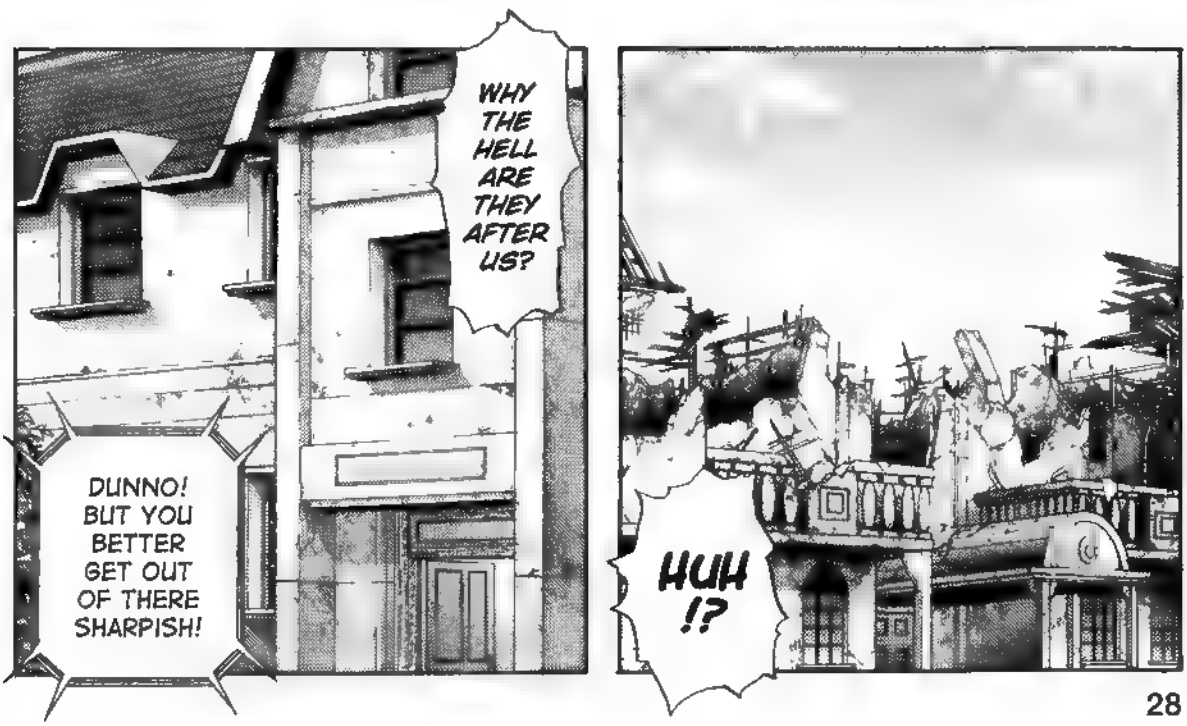
IN THAT CASE ...

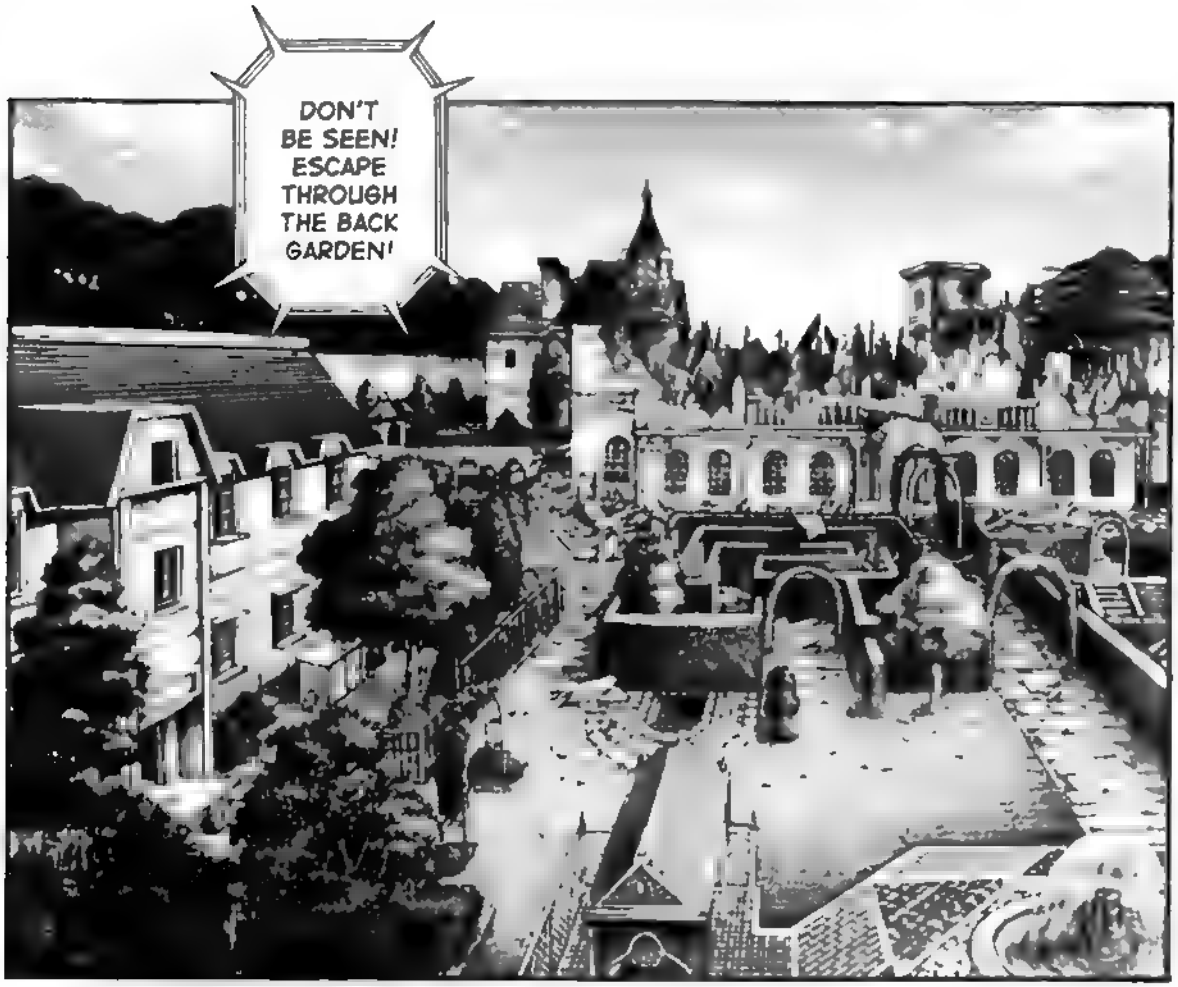
HEY.

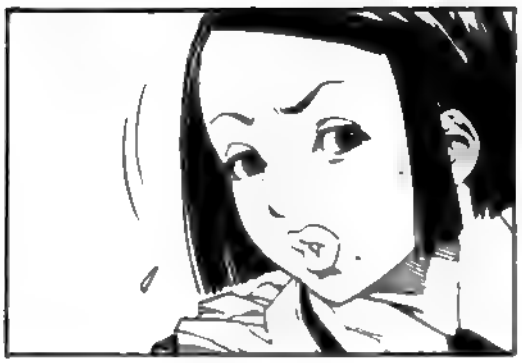
AREN'T YOU FORGETTING SOMEONE?



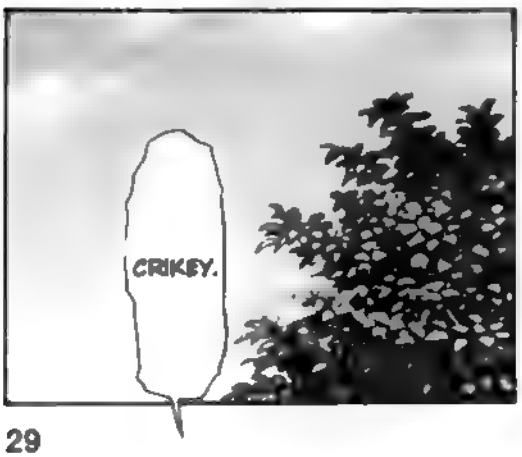

YEAH.


WHY THE HELL ARE THEY AFTER US?
DUNNO! BUT YOU BETTER GET OUT OF THERE SHARPISH!
HUH !?

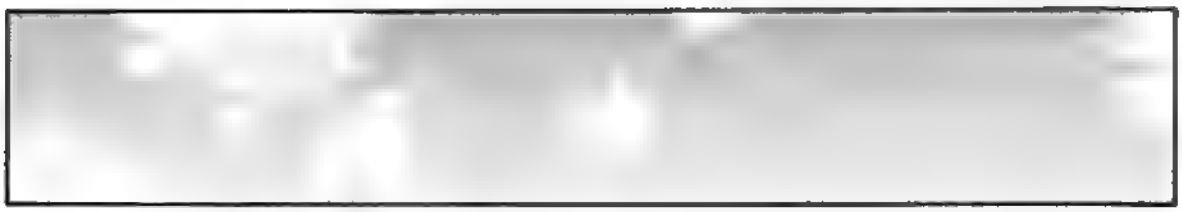

DON'T BE SEEN! ESCAPE THROUGH THE BACK GARDEN!




SFX. GAGAGAGA


CRIKEY.

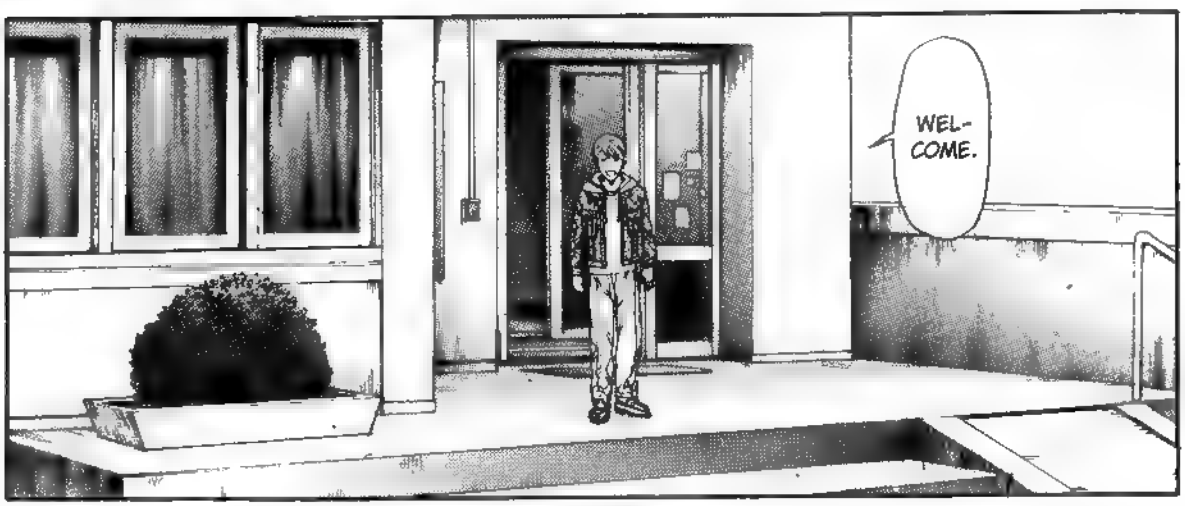

HOW'D I GET INVOLVED IN THIS BULLSHIT?
DAMMIT!






Kiki-

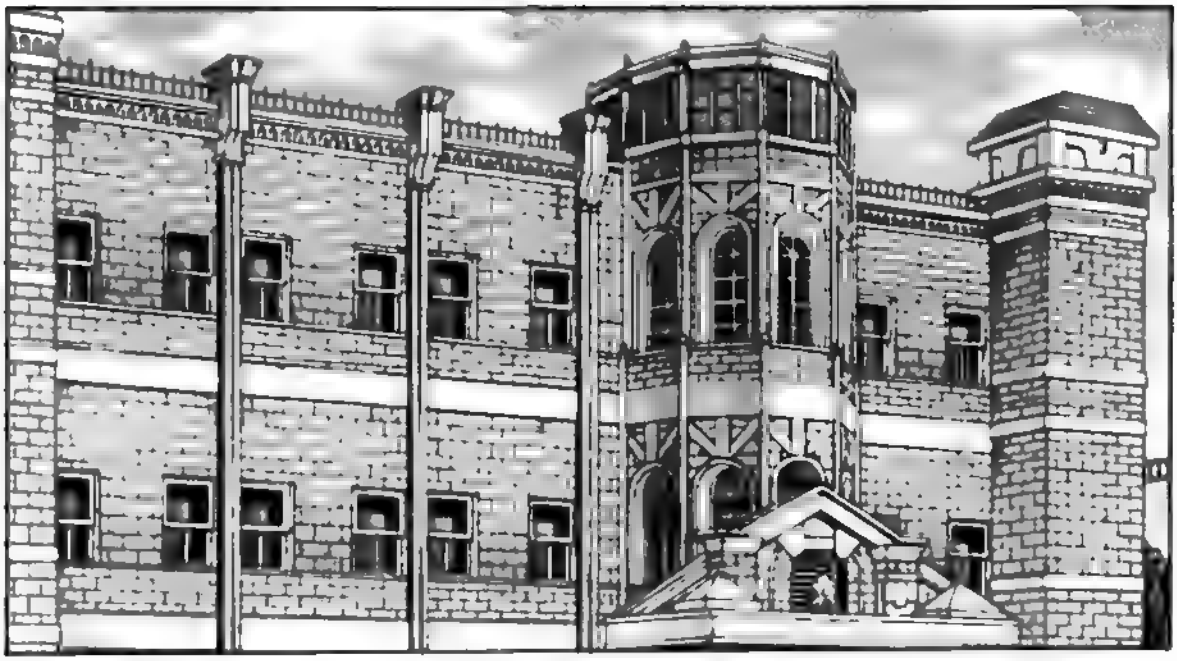

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE LUG-GAGE...?
HEY! SOMEONE GIVE ME A HAND!


WEL-COME.


I HEARD YOU WERE COMING.
THIS WAY PLEASE.
I'M SUZUKI.

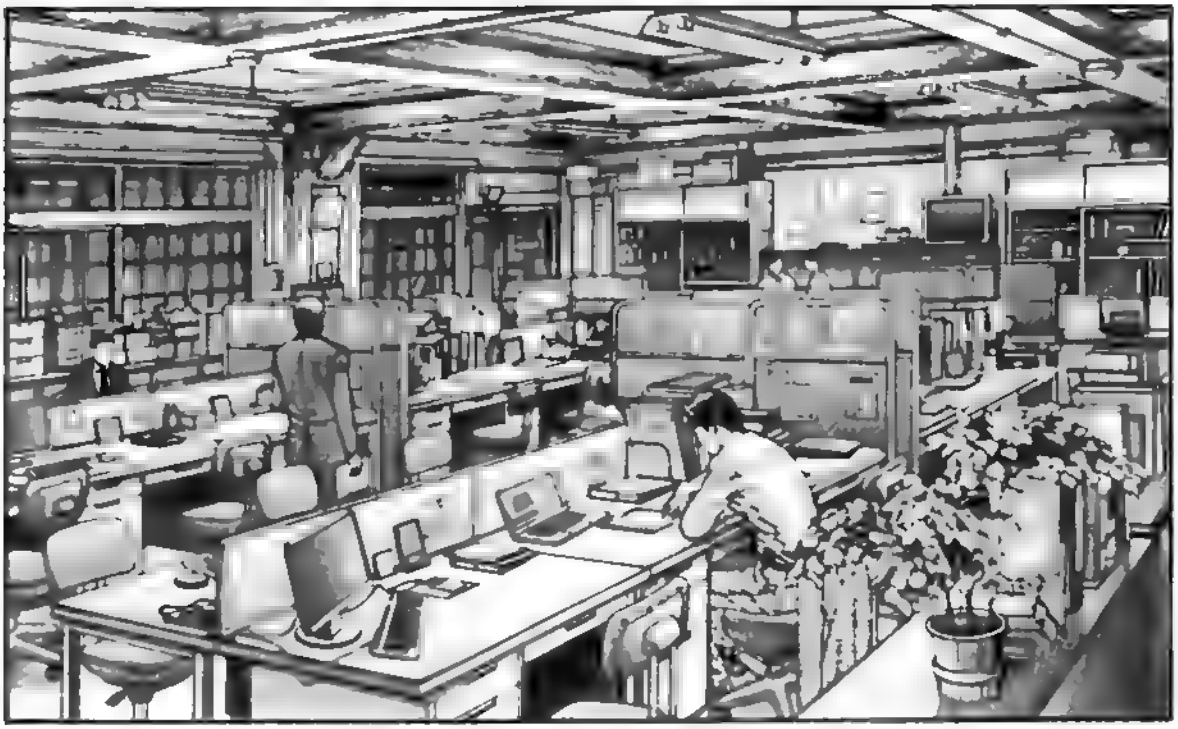



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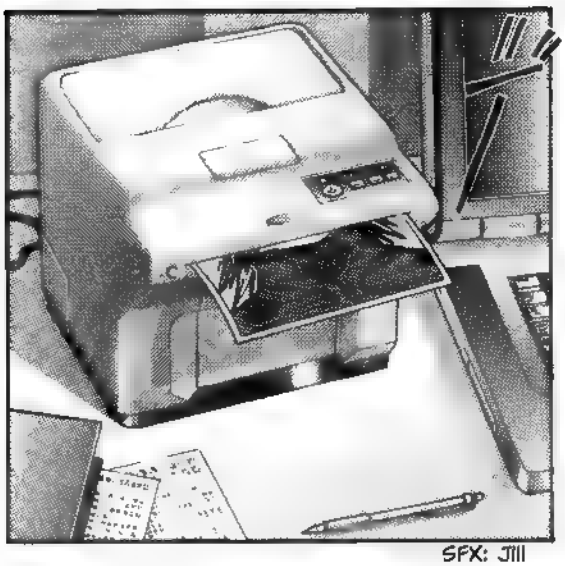




SIGN SHIMOJI POLICE STATION







SFX: JIII





Chapter 147
(SHIBAKI'S LAST WILL)



SFX: JIII






...
IT'S NOTHING.
..
SFX: JUH
H-HEY!

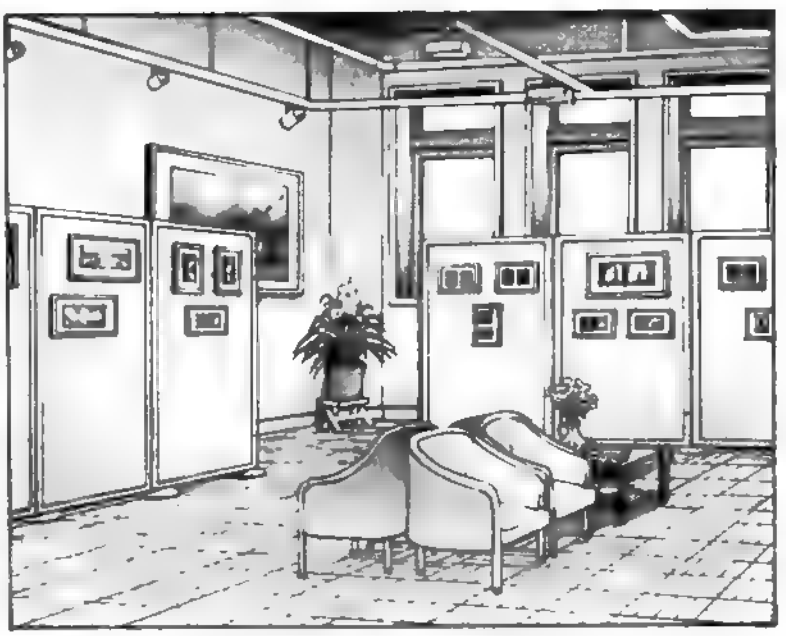

I SAID IT'S NOTHING.
WHY WERE YOU SENT JIN'S PHOTO?
SFX: DON
HAA.
TCH ...
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH HIM?
...
I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOUR UNSAVOURY LITTLE SIDE JOB.


YOU TAKE BRIBES FROM A CERTAIN CORPORATION AND HELP OUT WITH THEIR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.
I DON'T DO ANYTHING ILLEGAL.
WELL, WHATEVER... THREATEN ME ALL YOU WANT, BUT IT'S POINTLESS.
WHY ARE YOU SUCH A SUPPORTER OF THAT HOMELESS PUNK, ANYWAY?
WHAT ARE YOU PULLING THAT FACE FOR SAYAMA?
MY SUPERIOR'S ALREADY GIVEN THE WORD.
...









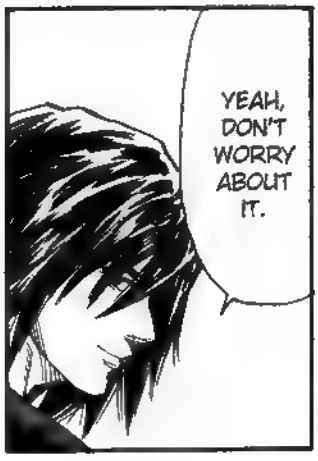

THE TWO OF US WILL BE LEAVING SHORTLY.


WHAT TO DO ...
THERE AREN'T ENOUGH BEDS.

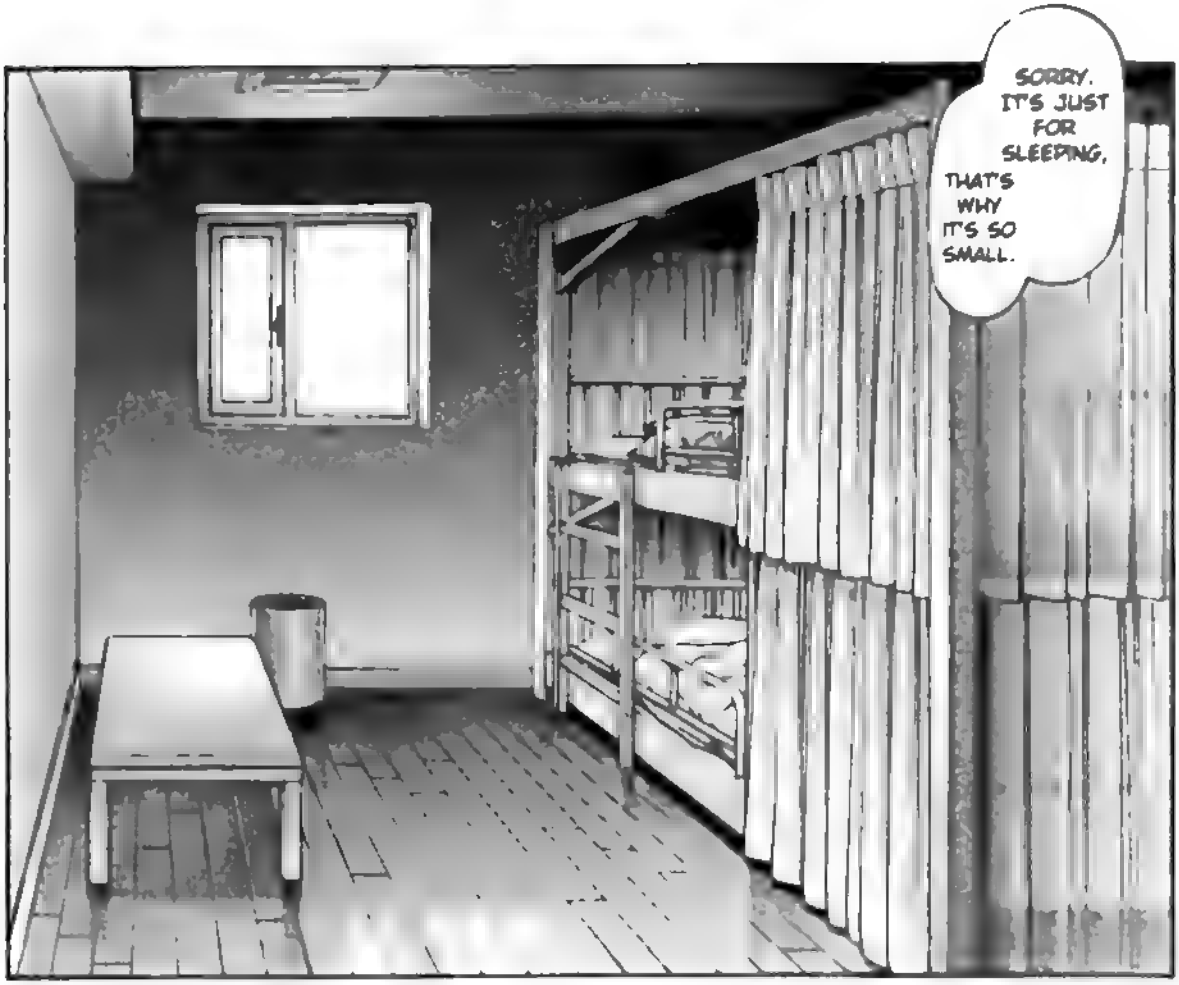

I CAN SLEEP ON THE FLOOR.
GIMME ANYWHERE.

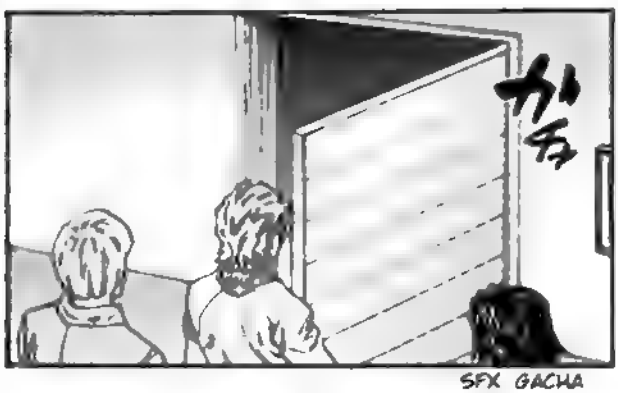

EH? UM...
IS THAT OK?
YOU TAKE A ROOM WITH KOUGA.


WE CAN BRING A FUTON FOR ONE FROM THE HOUSE.


YEAH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

SFX: GACHA


SORRY. IT'S JUST FOR SLEEPING, THAT'S WHY IT'S SO SMALL.

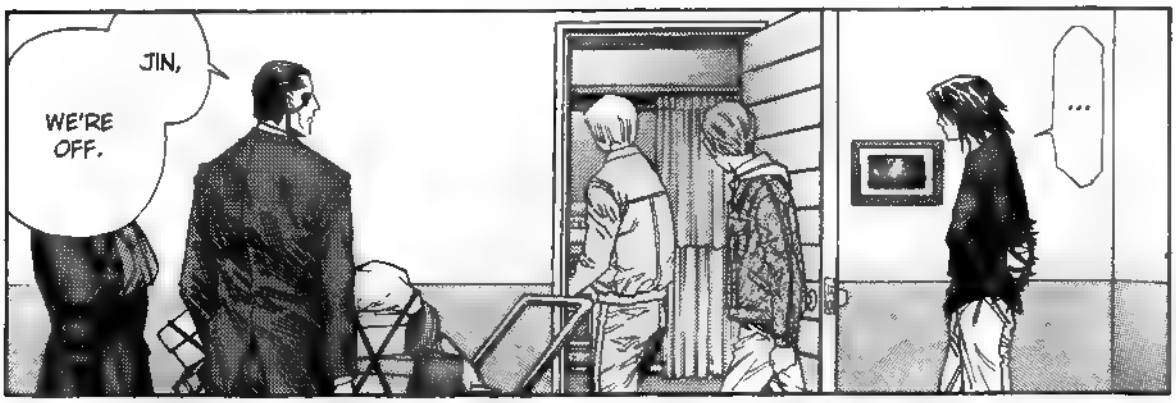

ガチャ

SFX GACHA

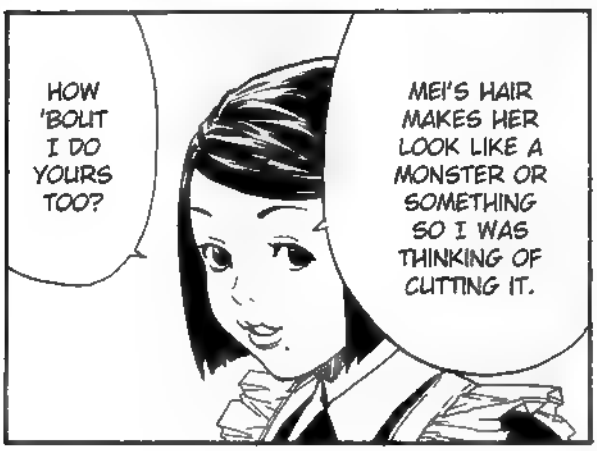

THANKS.
PLEASE.


SO, YOU MUST BE KOUGA?


SFX: SU


JIN,
WE'RE OFF.
...

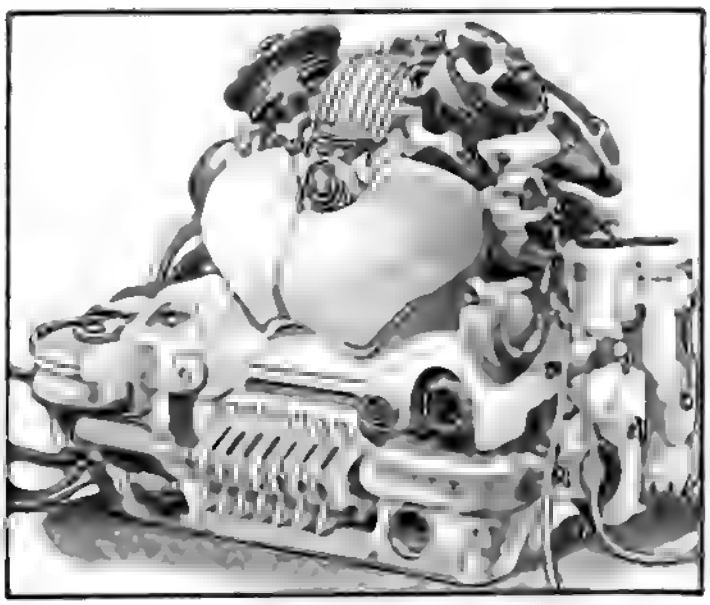

HUH?

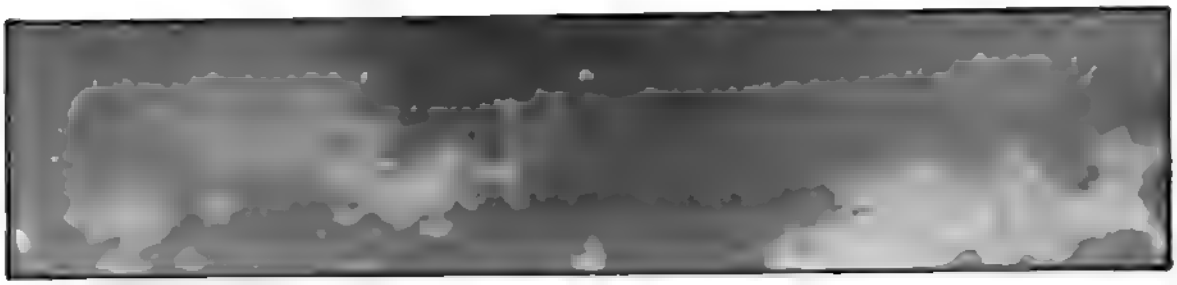

HOW 'BOUT I DO YOURS TOO?
MEI'S HAIR MAKES HER LOOK LIKE A MONSTER OR SOMETHING SO I WAS THINKING OF CUTTING IT.


YOU'RE A MESS AS WELL, AREN'T YOU?
'K.


YOU KNOW HOW I WAS SEARCHING HIS BRAIN FOR THE SECRET OF THE AWAKENING?
THAT'S WHEN HE ASKED ME TO TELL YOU.
I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM PROF. SHIBAKI.
ALSO,
THERE'S SOMETHING HE REALLY WANTS YOU TO KNOW—
HOW PROF. KANZAKI FELT ABOUT BIRTHING AND RAISING YOU.
BUT HOW AWESOME IS IT THAT THE BRAIN SCANNER LETS YOU HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH SOMEONE DEAD?
HERE YOU GO.
ASK WHENEVER YOU WANT.











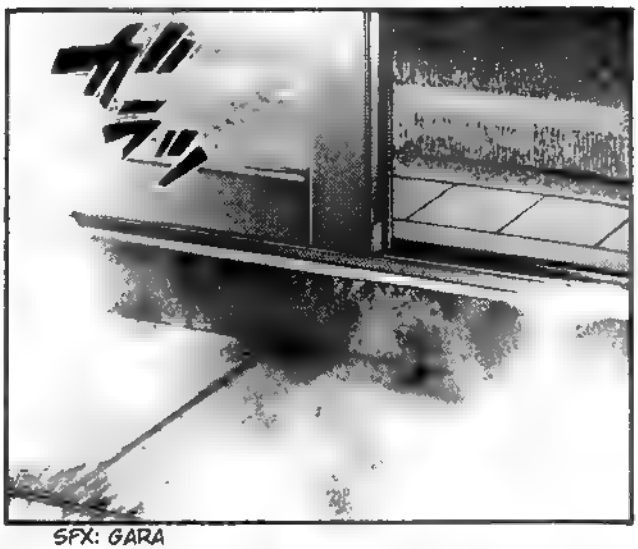

THERE MUST BE A GOOD REASON FOR THAT
RIGHT NOW YOU AIN'T FULLY HUMAN OR YET
IF YOU ASK ME, I THINK YOU SHOULD HAVE A LOOK



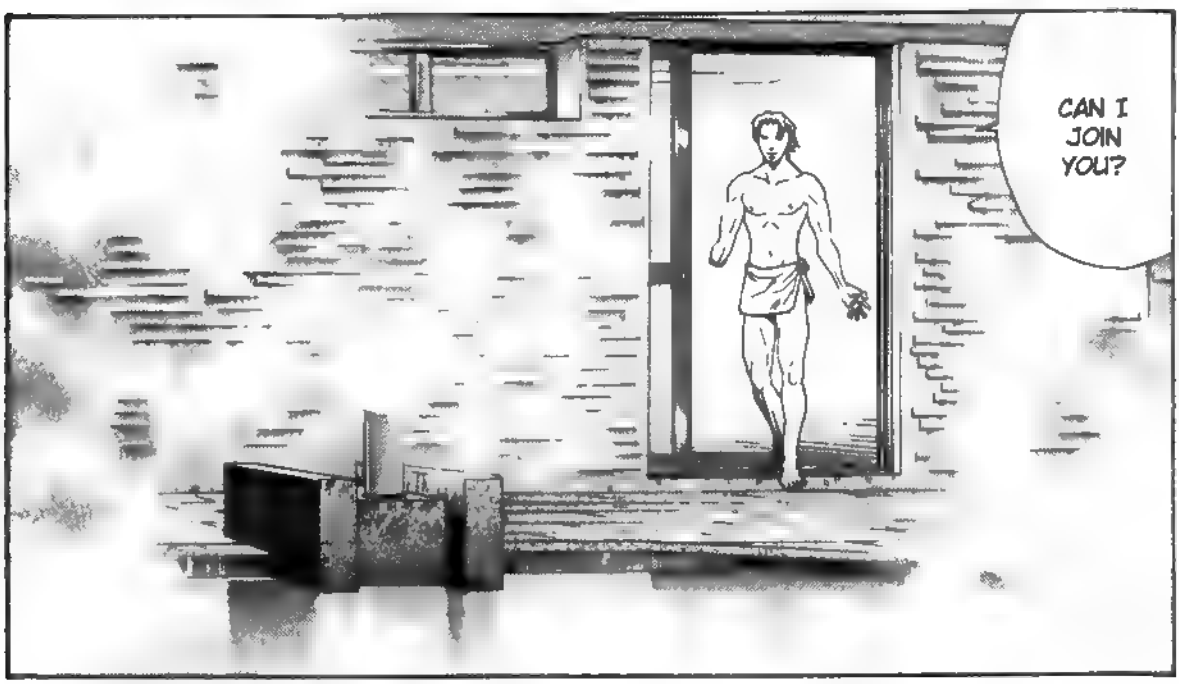



I'M GOING TO LIVE AS A HUMAN... I'M NOT GONNA CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT BEING ZET AGAIN...
SO THEN WHAT'S THE POINT OF KNOWING MORE ANCIENT HISTORY...

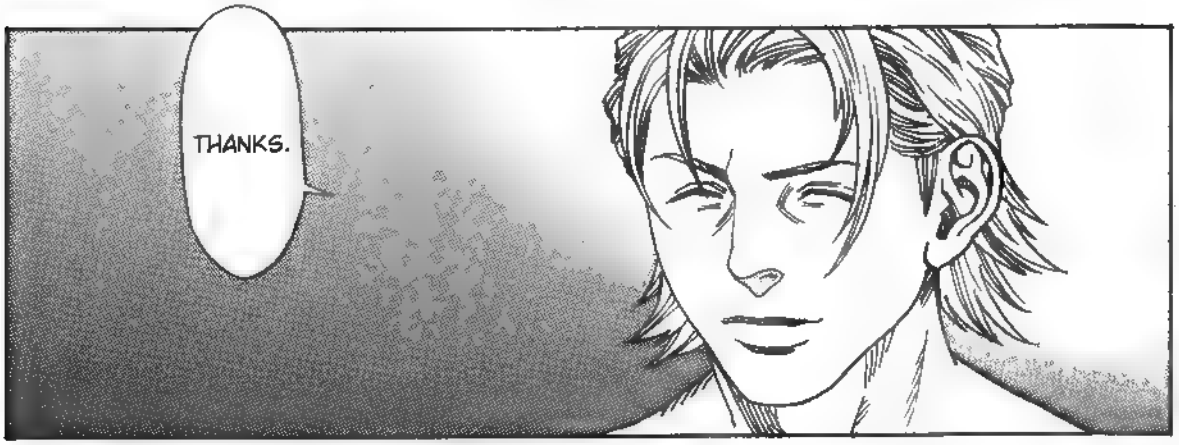


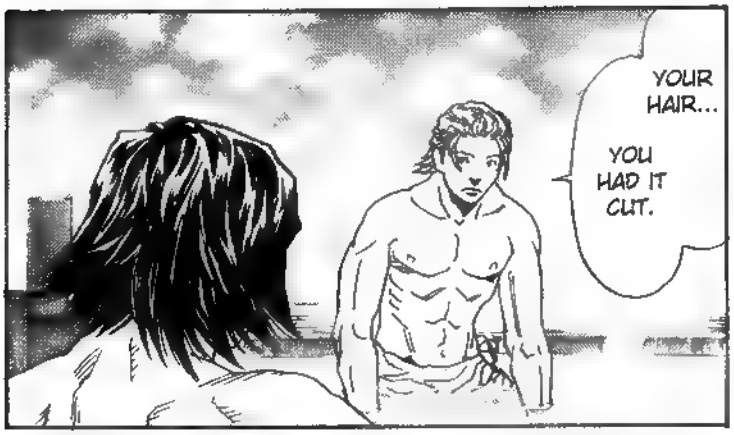

ガラッ

SFX: GARA


CAN I JOIN YOU?


GO AHEAD.


THANKS.


YOUR HAIR...
YOU HAD IT CUT.


...


ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT MUCH DIFFERENT.
...
I'VE HEARD THAT BEFORE.
...

Chapter 148
(IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT)




DUDE SAYS CREEPY STUFF SOMETIMES ...
I'M HAPPY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ME.
THANKS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M TAKING A BATH WITH A SUPERHERO.
I'M AWED, I THINK...
YOU KNOW, THIS FEELS STRANGE ...
YOU, OBVIOUSLY!
WHO'S THE SUPER-HERO?
EH?
YOU ARE?
HUH?




LIKE FUCK I AM.


I WISH YOU COULD SEE YOURSELF FOR WHAT YOU ARE.
YOU'RE UNIQUE, PEERLESS.




... WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO SAY?


YOU WERE LISTENING IN EARLIER.


D-
DON'T
ASK...
JUSTICE
FREAKS
CAN PLANT
BUGS, CAN
THEY?
...
SORRY.
PLUS
I'M NOT
INTERESTED
ANYMORE.
WE'VE
LOST THE
TECHNOLOGY
FOR MAKING
ME ZET.
IF YOU
OVERHEARD
THEN
THIS'LL BE
EASIER.
...
I WANT
YOU
FIGHTING
WITH ME.
I CAN'T
BEAT EVOL
ALONE!
DON'T
SAY
THAT!
DON'T
GIVE UP
ON ZET.


I SAID WE'D START A FAMILY...
I MADE MY GIRL-FRIEND A PROMISE ...
AND ...
SFX: ZABA
SHE'LL GET DRAGGED INTO IT.
IF I CARRY ON THE FIGHT,
SFX: ZAH

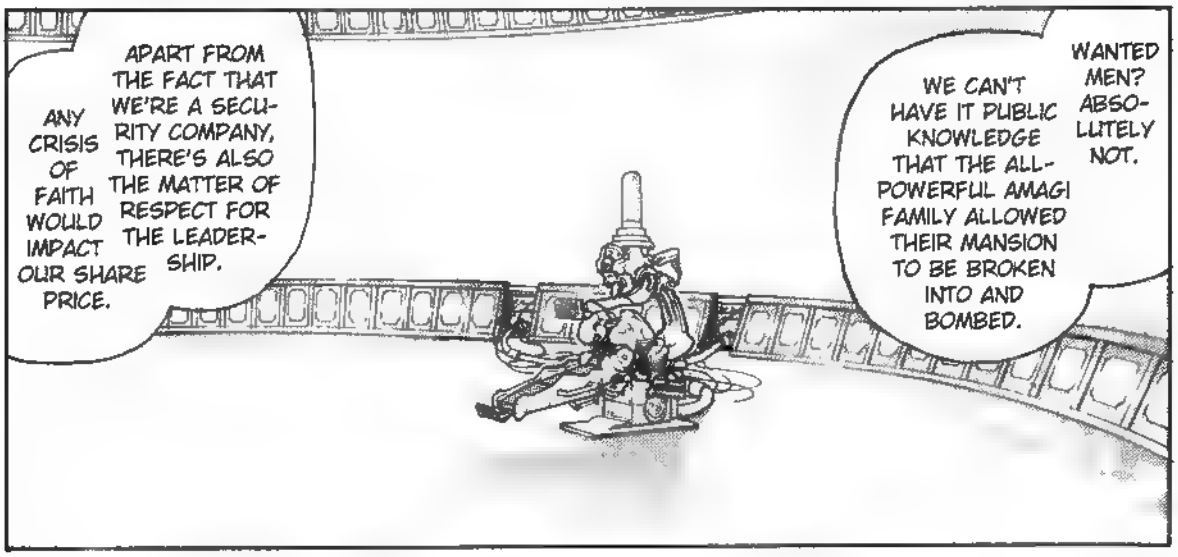

I CAN'T ...
GO ON LIKE THAT.
I'VE HURT ...
SO MANY PEOPLE ALONG THE WAY.






IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
WITH JUSTICE COMES SACRIFICE ...
NOBODY CAN AVOID THAT CONTRADICTION.
THEN ...
I...
DON'T NEED NO FUCKING JUSTICE ...
SFX: ZAAAAA

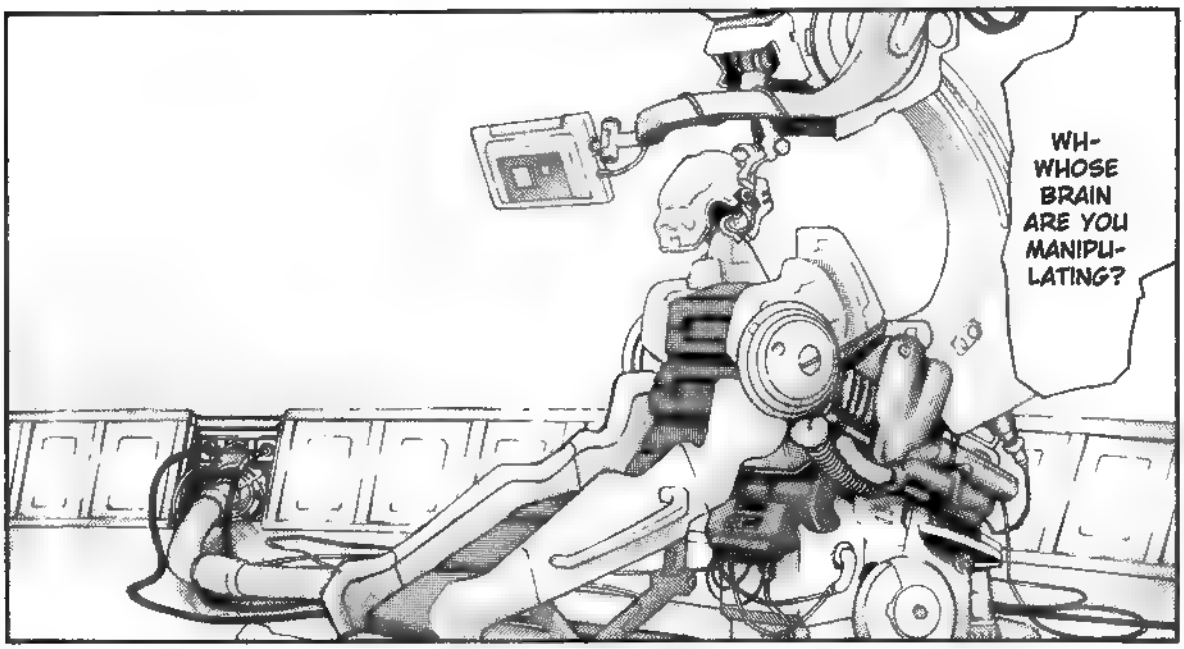

THEIR ESCAPE WAS UNAVOIDABLE...
THE POLICE ARE NOW INVOLVED,
SO I EXPECT WE'LL HAVE THEM SHORTLY.
AMAGI CORP


ANY CRISIS OF FAITH WOULD IMPACT OUR SHARE PRICE.
APART FROM THE FACT THAT WE'RE A SECURITY COMPANY, THERE'S ALSO THE MATTER OF RESPECT FOR THE LEADERSHIP.
WE CAN'T HAVE IT PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THAT THE ALL-POWERFUL AMAGI FAMILY ALLOWED THEIR MANSION TO BE BROKEN INTO AND BOMBED.
WANTED MEN? ABSOLUTELY NOT.


LOSS OF FAITH MEANS WE'RE FINISHED. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, HAYAMI?

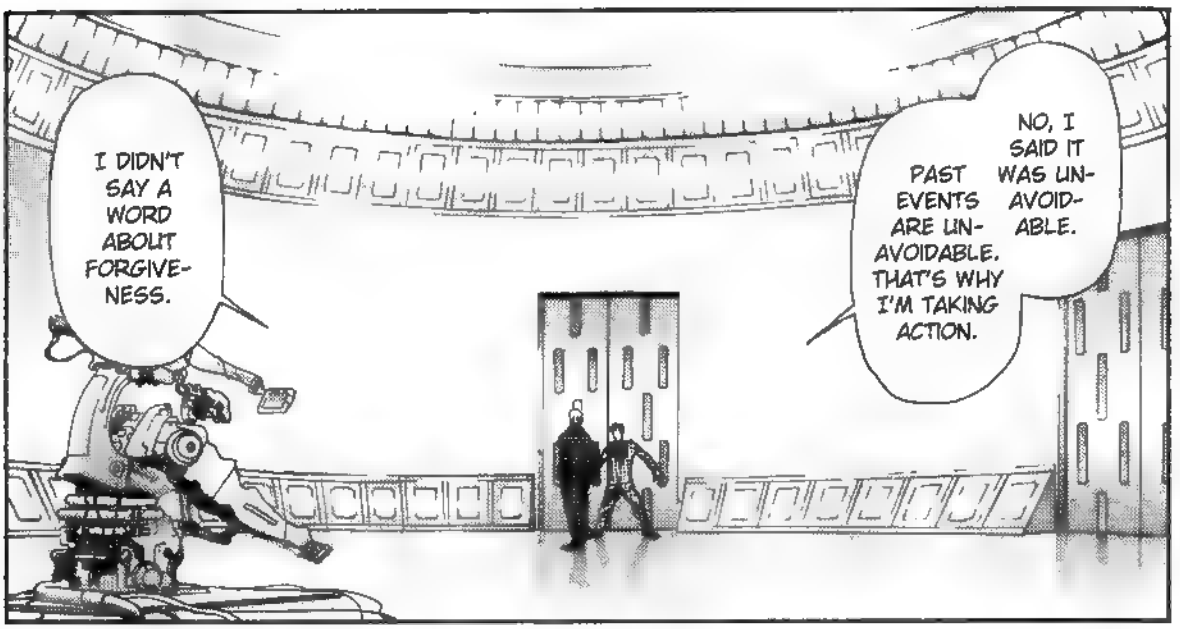
SFX: RUU


!

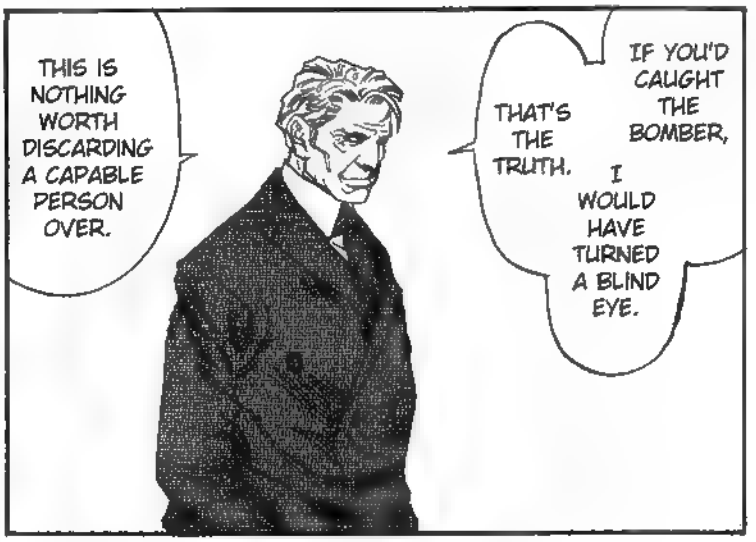

WH-WHOSE BRAIN ARE YOU MANIPU-LATING?


SFX: BAH
IT'S LOCKED.
IT WON'T OPEN UNTIL I GIVE THE COMMAND.


BUT ...
YOU FOR-GAVE ME...


I DIDN'T SAY A WORD ABOUT FORGIVE-NESS.
PAST EVENTS ARE UN-AVOIDABLE. THAT'S WHY I'M TAKING ACTION.
NO, I SAID IT WAS UN-AVOID-ABLE.




THIS IS NOTHING WORTH DISCARDING A CAPABLE PERSON OVER.
THAT'S THE TRUTH.
IF YOU'D CAUGHT THE BOMBER, I WOULD HAVE TURNED A BLIND EYE.


SUCH A SHAME.
YOU'RE A TRULY TALENTED INDIVID-UAL.
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO COME OFF THE RAILS?

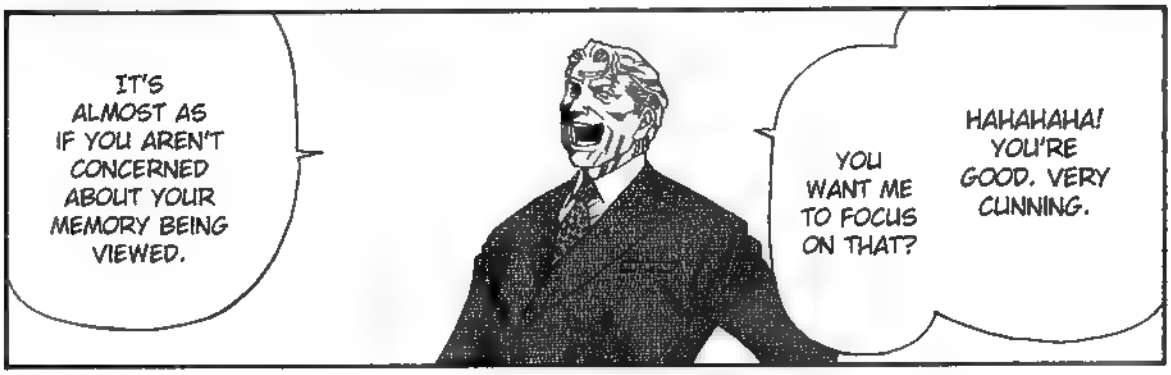

!




THERE'S NO POINT IN USING THE MACHINE!
I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU EVERY-THING!


THIS IS KABE'S GUN. YOU REMEM-BER IT?


MAKE ME COMMIT SUICIDE, LIKE MR. KABE!?
W-
YOU DON'T INTEND TO USE THE MACHINE TO—
WAIT!


IT'S ALMOST AS IF YOU AREN'T CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR MEMORY BEING VIEWED.
YOU WANT ME TO FOCUS ON THAT?
HAHAHAHA! YOU'RE GOOD. VERY CUNNING.

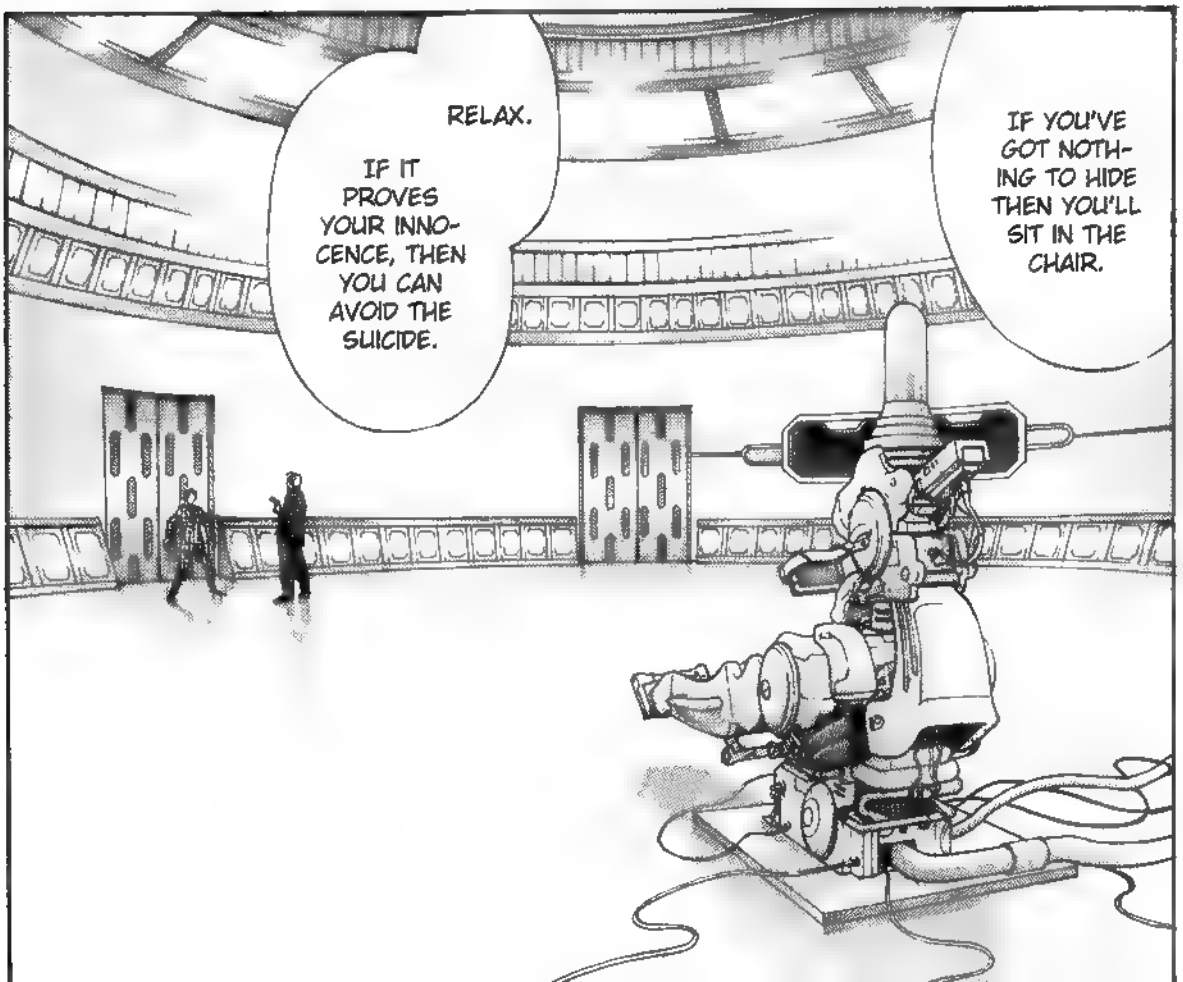

IF I ONLY HAD A HUNCH THEN THAT MIGHT JUST SWAY ME.
UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, I'M CONVINCED.
YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING HUGE.


I...
THAT ...

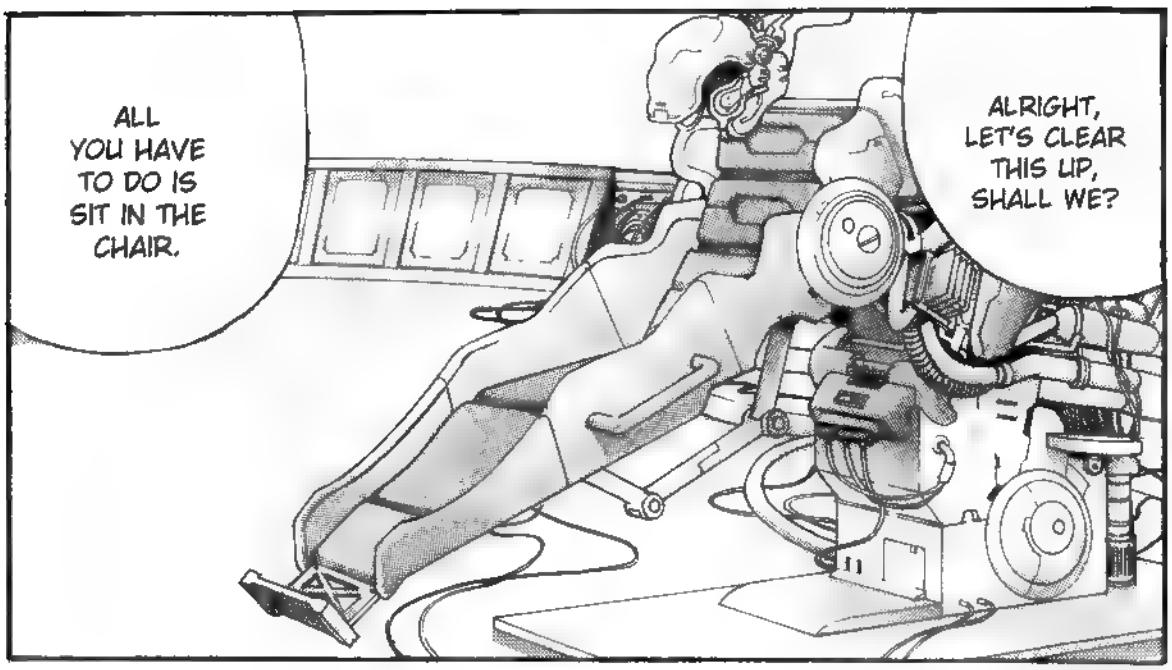

"NOTHING TO HIDE" IS THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SUGGESTION.


LIKE THE IDENTITY OF KATOU, MASTERMIND OF THE JIROU INCIDENT...
AND MORE.




RELAX.
IF IT PROVES YOUR INNOCENCE, THEN YOU CAN AVOID THE SUICIDE.
IF YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO HIDE THEN YOU'LL SIT IN THE CHAIR.

ZETMAN

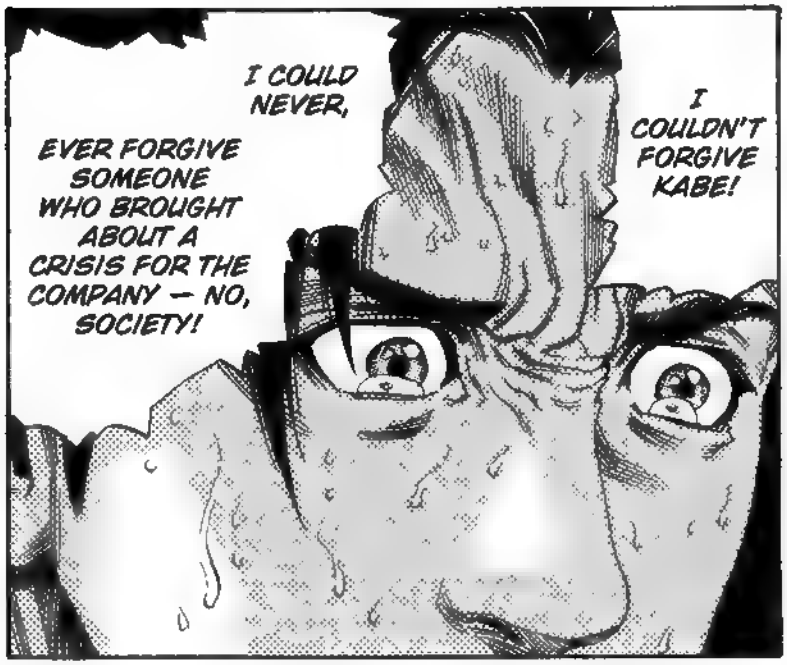


Chapter 149
(THE JIROU INCIDENT)




I'VE GOT NO MOTIVE TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED! WHY WOULD I WANT TO HARM KOUGA!?
THIS IS A MISTAKE!
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU INVESTI-GATED ME,
BUT YOU GOT THINGS WRONG SOME-HOW!


WHEN I LOVE IT SO MUCH!?
WHY WOULD I EVER DO ANYTHING TO HARM THE COMPANY?


I COULD NEVER,
EVER FORGIVE SOMEONE WHO BROUGHT ABOUT A CRISIS FOR THE COMPANY — NO, SOCIETY!
I COULDN'T FORGIVE KABE!




ALL THANKS TO THAT STUPID BRAT!
THE WHOLE COMPANY'S FOUND OUT ABOUT THE PLAYERS! I'M FINISHED!
MR. KABE, WAIT.
NATURALLY, HE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT ALL.
ALL WE NEED TO DO IS GET RID OF YOUR MEMORIES OF THE PLAYERS. THAT WOULD GET YOU PAST A LIE DETECTOR.
JUST CLAIM YOU KNOW NOTHING.
SO...
IT'S TRUE.
WE'VE RECENTLY ACQUIRED A MACHINE CALLED A BRAIN SCANNER FROM R&D...


IF I HADN'T HE WOULD HAVE SHOT KOUGA! THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO STOP HIM!
OF COURSE I KILLED HIM!
YOU USED THE BRAIN SCANNER FOR MIND CONTROL, FORCING HIM TO KILL HIMSELF.
CORRECT?
NO NEED TO KILL HIM, SURELY?
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
SO FOR YOU, SUICIDE WAS THE BEST STRATEGY.
EVEN IF YOU HAD DELETED THE INCRIMINATING MEMORIES,
THERE WAS NO GUARANTEE THEY COULDN'T BE RESTORED.

BUT YOU ACTUALLY ENDED UP EXTORTING MONEY FROM HIM.

YOU PERSUADED KABE TO BRING YOU IN TO PLUG THE LEAK.

HE PROBABLY DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT WAS FOR.

YOU USED IT TO PLOT THE DOWNFALL OF THE AMAGI CLAN.

YOU CAME ACROSS THE HIDDEN DATA ON PLAYERS AND RESEARCH LABS. A DARK HISTORY THAT EVEN I WAS UNAWARE OF.

WHETHER BY CHANCE OR OTHERWISE,

YOU DON'T LOVE THE COMPANY. YOU LOVE ITS POWER.

THE GOAL OF THE ALFASZ PROJECT WAS TO DISTANCE KOUGA FROM RESPONSIBILITY AND VICE CHAIRMANSHIP.

WITH THAT PLAN ENDING IN FAILURE YOU PROCEEDED ONTO YOUR NEXT.

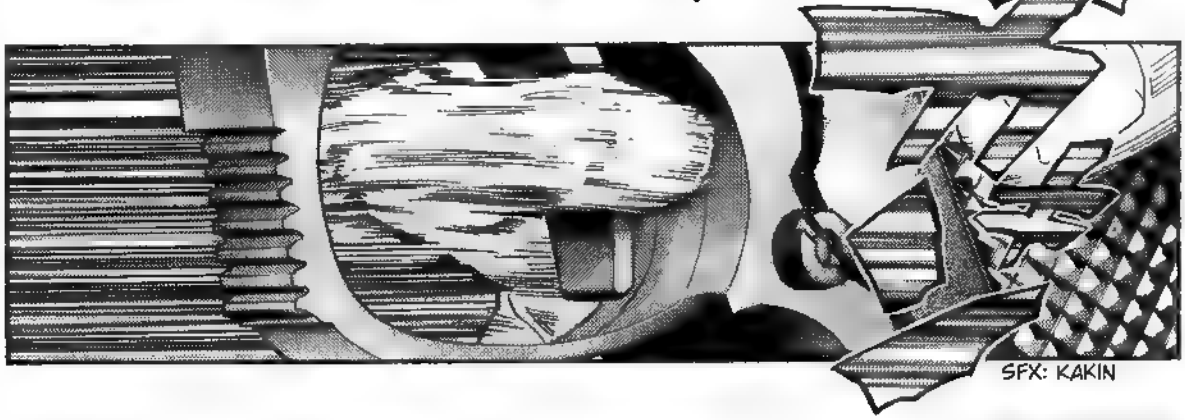


SFX: KA KA KA




I'M NOT!
SFX: DON


I'M NOT KATOU!
SFX: BAH

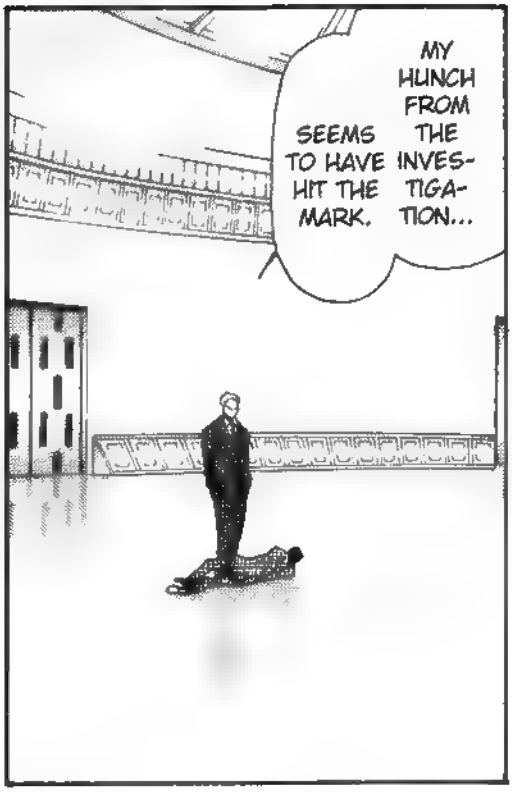

SFX: KAKIN


SUCH A SHAME HAYAMI.
SFX: KAKIN KAKIN KAKIN



SFX: SU



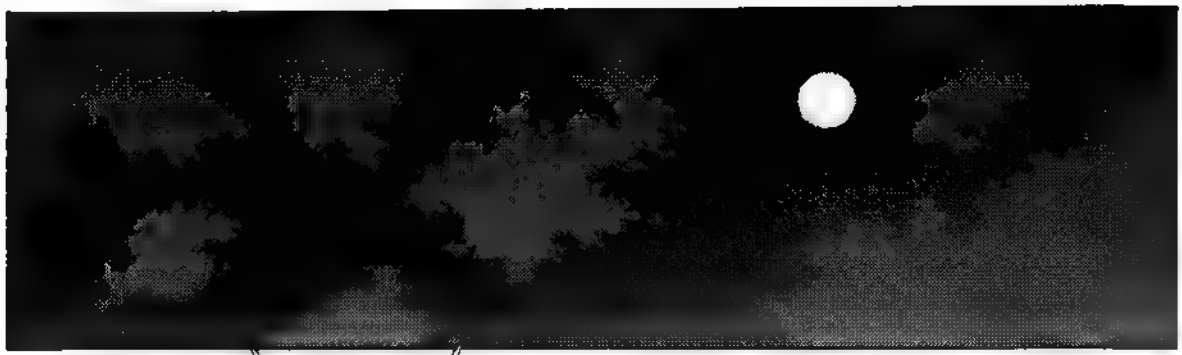






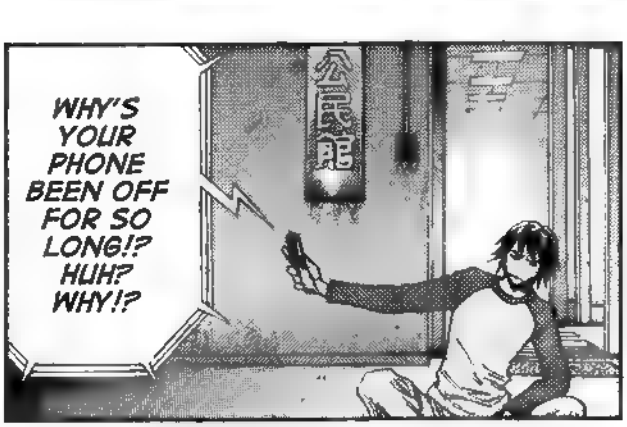
SFX: GOH





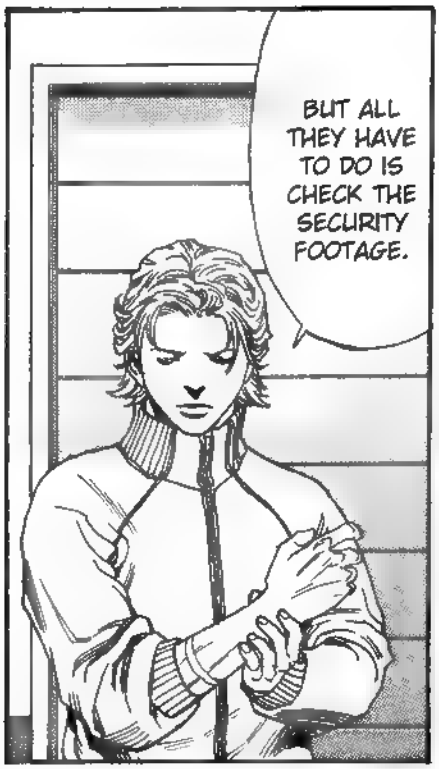

YOU DUMB-ASS!


WHY!?
DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT DAY IT IS?
WHY TOMOR-ROW?
UM. DUNNO?
YOU RETARD!

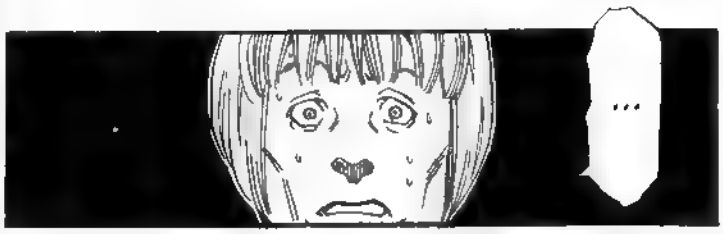

WHY'S YOUR PHONE BEEN OFF FOR SO LONG!? HUH? WHY!?


AS PUNISH-MENT YOU HAVE TO MEET ME TOMOR-ROW.
SORRY, SORRY, I BUST IT.


EH?
SOUNDS LIKE AN ARGU-MENT.
YEAH.
IS JIN STILL ON THE PHONE?
SORRY, I'M LATE!
TO GET THIS.
IT'S PRETTY INCONVENIENT TO BE ARM-LESS, ISN'T IT? I DISABLED THE TRACKER OF COURSE.
SO... WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?
THAT WAS A BAD IDEA.
BUT THANKFULLY I MANAGED TO SNEAK IN WITHOUT BEING SEEN.
ME TOO! I WAS SCARED TO DEATH.
WHAT? YOU WENT TO THE OFFICE?
I'M GLAD YOU WEREN'T CAUGHT.


BUT ALL THEY HAVE TO DO IS CHECK THE SECURITY FOOTAGE.


YOU WERE HIDDEN BEFORE SO THEY DON'T KNOW YOU'RE INVOLVED.
THEN WE'D ALREADY BE UNDER ATTACK.
THIS PLACE ISN'T SAFE ANYMORE.
YOU COULD BE COMPRO-MISED.

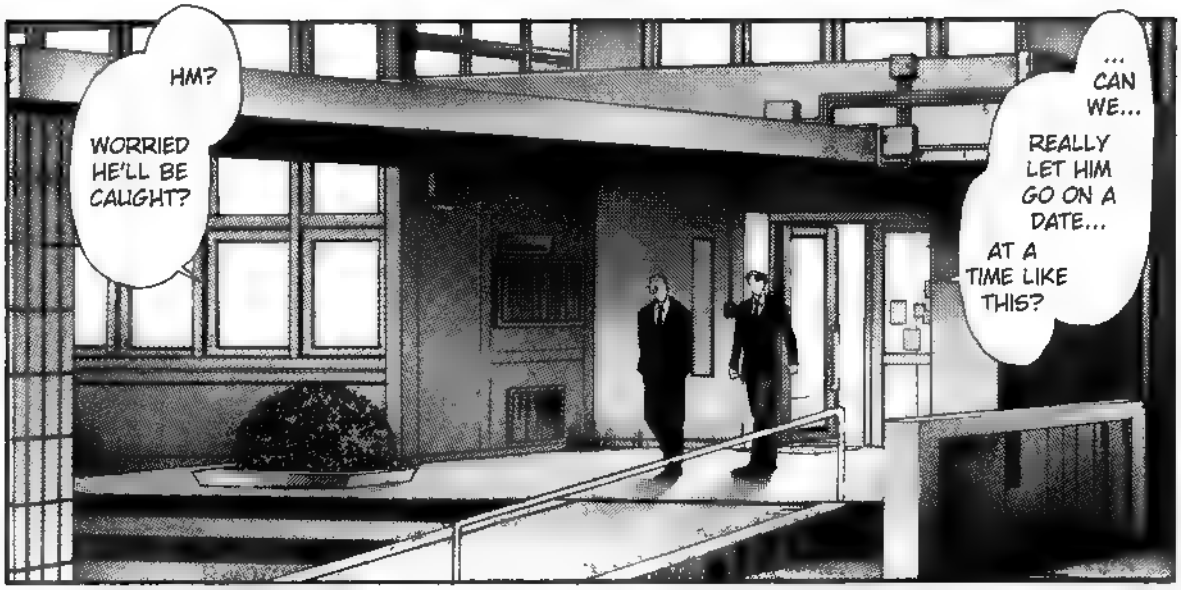

...


YOU'RE ... WELCOME ...


SHIMURA, THANKS FOR THE ARM.
YOU'RE A LIFE SAVER.


WHAT FATHER WOULD DO IF YOU WERE CAUGHT.
I DON'T KNOW...
BUT YOU'D BEST STAY CLEAR OF THE COM-PANY.


TOMOR-
ROW...
I'M GOING OUT.
WOAH! YOU SCARED ME!
FUCKING CHRISTMAS EVE!
AH ...
AL-
RIGHT.
AH, I GET IT.
YOU FORGOT YOU HAD A DATE.
WH?
FOR SOME REASON GIRLS ALWAYS WANT TO GO OUT ON CHRISTMAS EVE. BEST REMEMBER THAT FOR NEXT TIME.
I SO DIDN'T SAY TOMORROW.
CRAP... EVEN THOUGH TOWN'S GONNA BE TOTALLY PACKED...
PFT ...


HM?
WORRIED HE'LL BE CAUGHT?
... CAN WE...
REALLY LET HIM GO ON A DATE...
AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

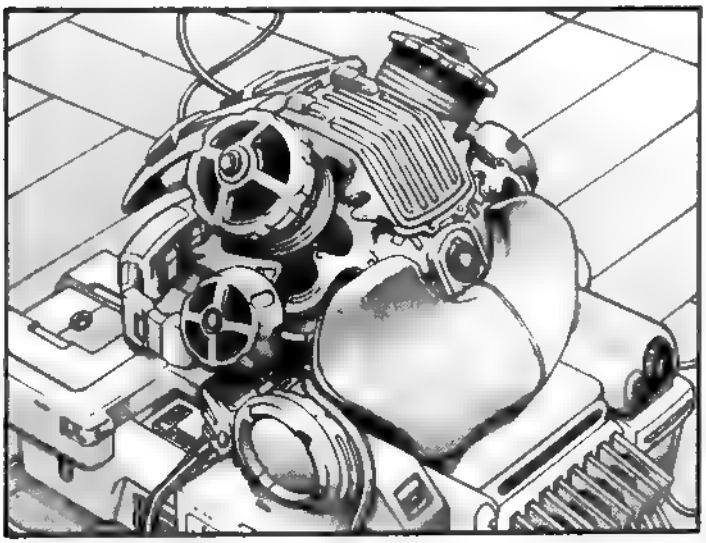

GIVE HIM A BREAK.
COME ON.


BUT IF HE DOESN'T?
IT'S JUST ONE NIGHT, SO AS LONG AS HE KEEPS HIS HEAD DOWN IT'LL BE FINE.

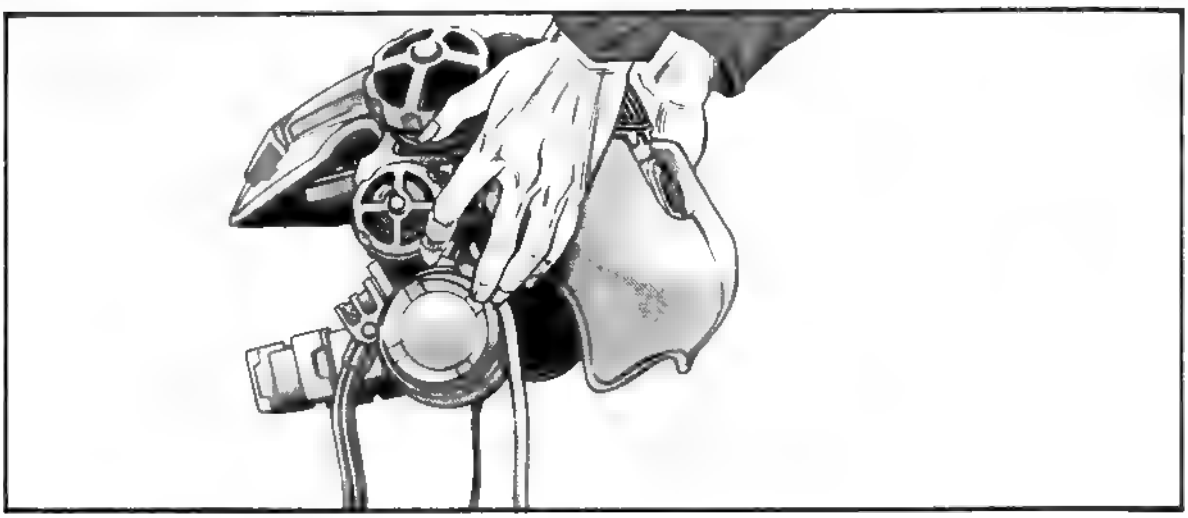



POOR KID'S GOT A REAL SHORTAGE OF HAPPY MEMORIES.


THERE'S SOMETHING HE REALLY WANTS YOU TO KNOW.
I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM PROF. SHIBAKI.

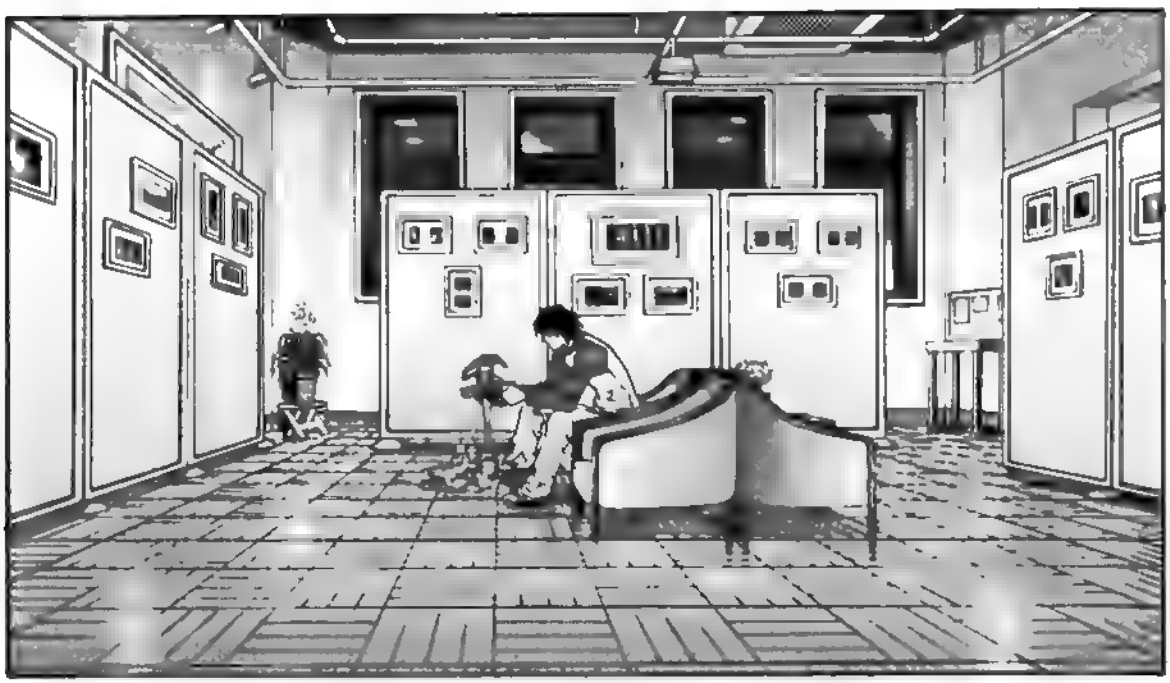


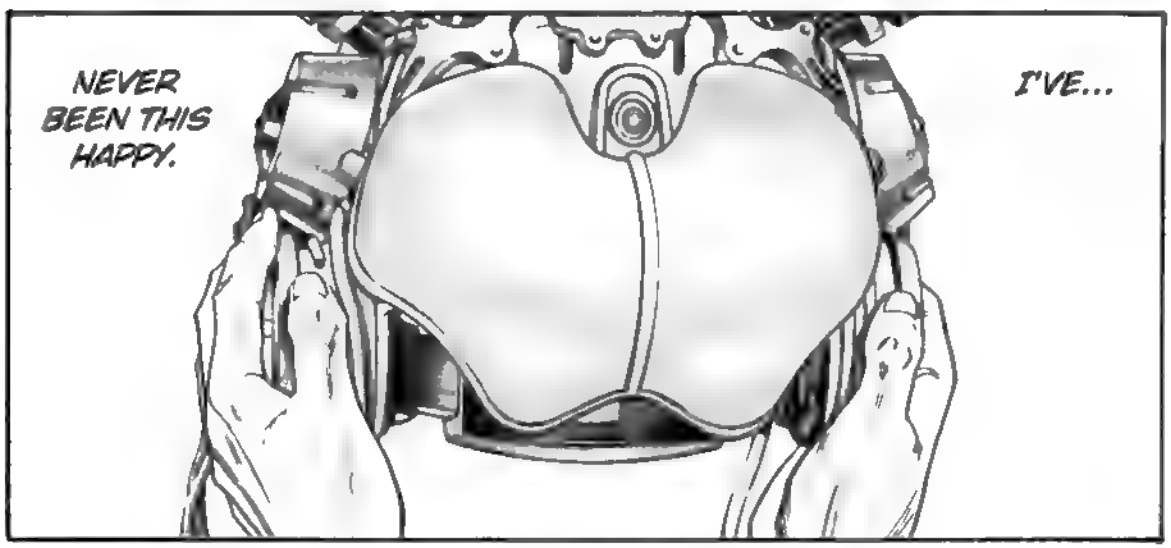

ABOUT BIRTHING AND RAISING YOU.
HOW PROF. KANZAKI FELT...

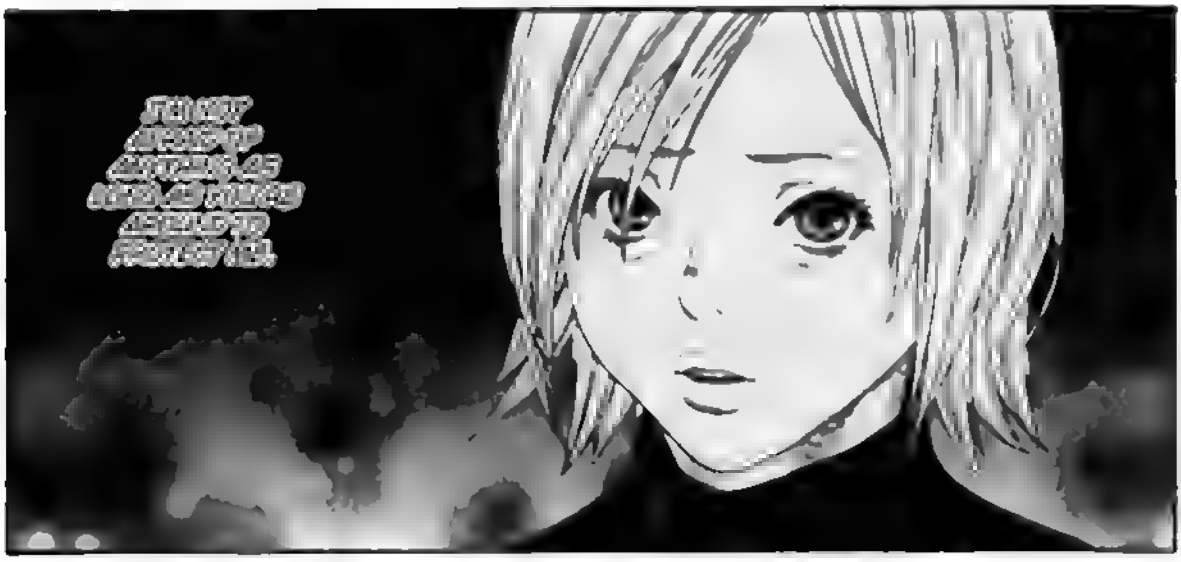


ZETMAN

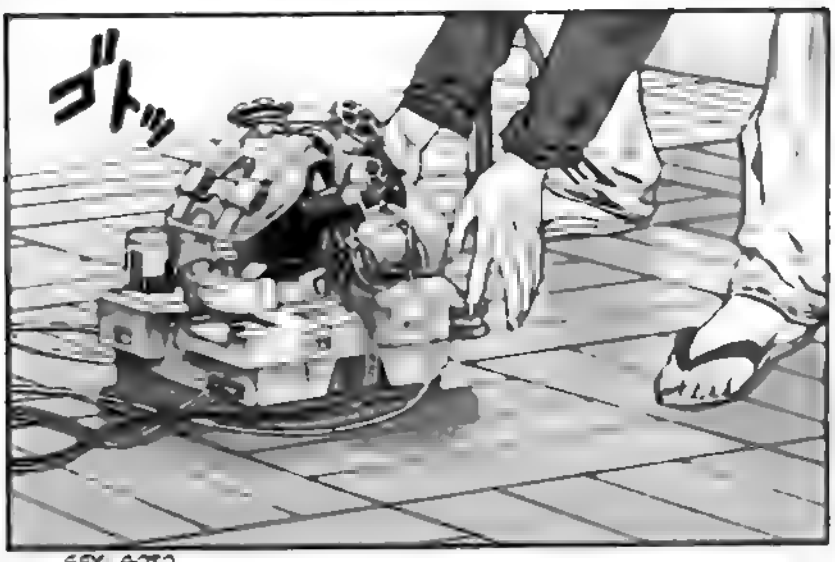
Chapter 150
(THE PAST IS ALWAYS...)







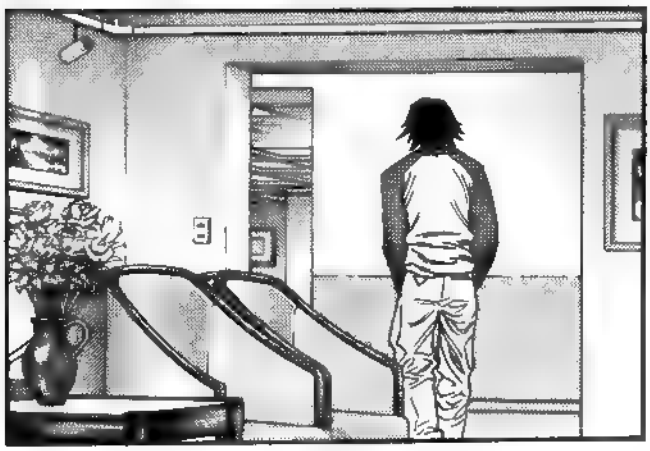




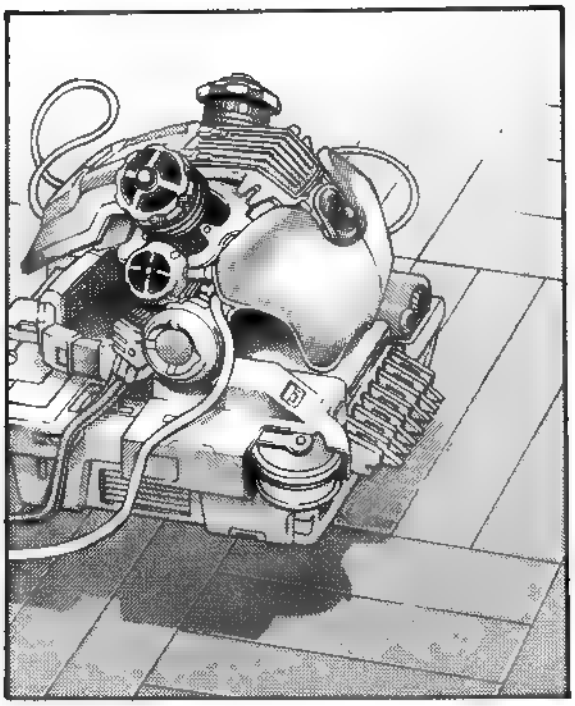
SFX: GOTO




NAH...
WHAT USE
IS THE
PAST TO ME
NOW...

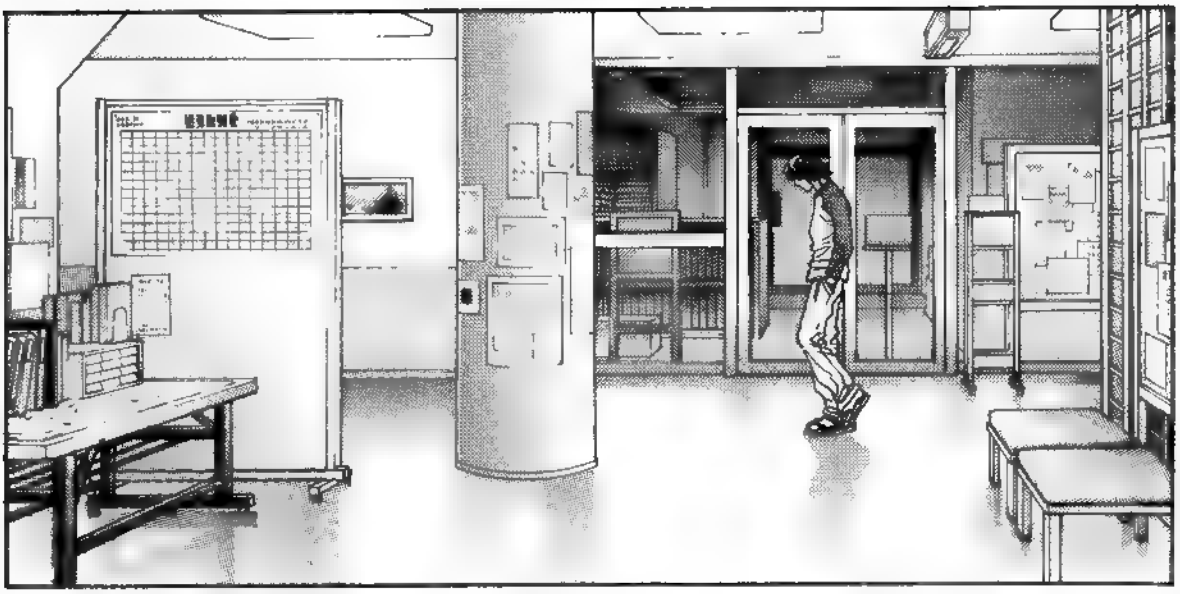



SFX: SU





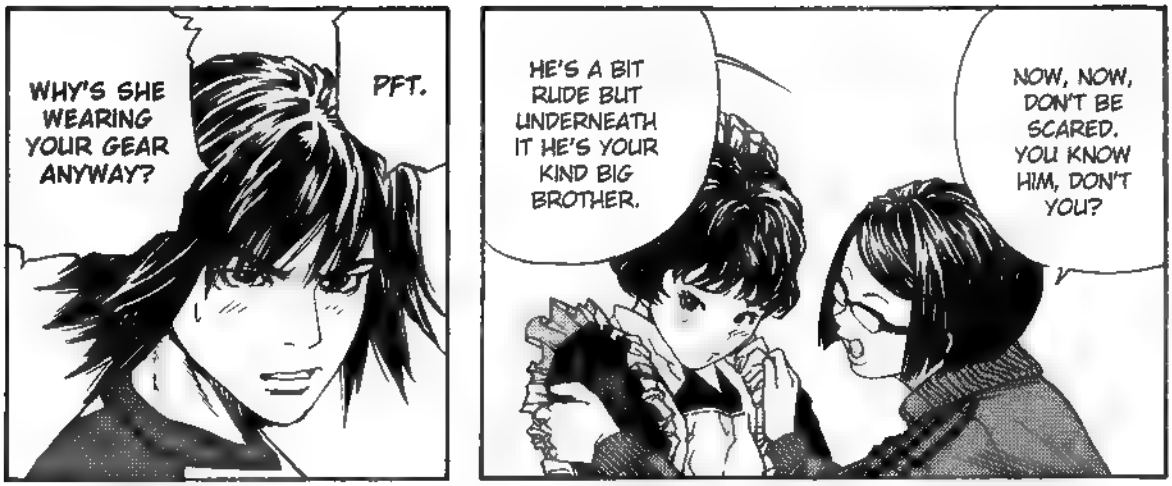








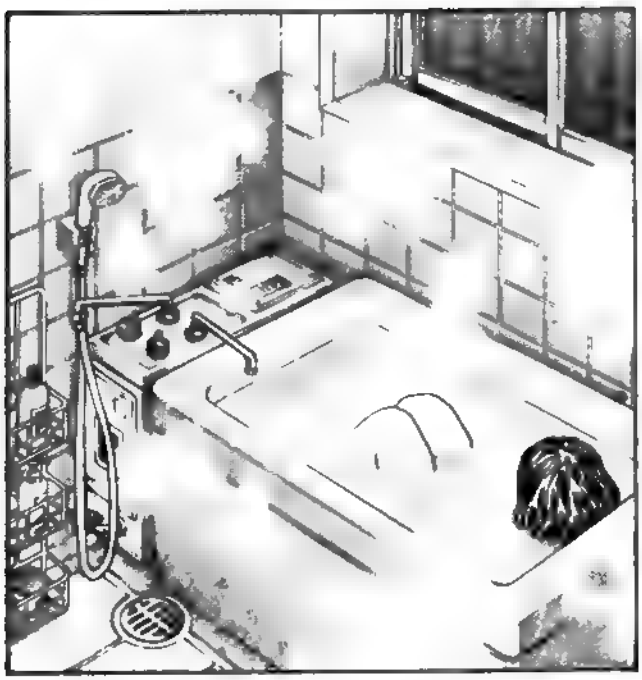

SFX: DOTE
AH.
SFX: BIKU
WHO THE FUCK !?
IDIOT! DON'T SHOUT LIKE THAT!
SFX: SASA
I CUT HER HAIR, THEN TRIED A BIT OF MAKEUP TO MAKE HER LOOK MORE GIRLY.
CUTE, HUH?
WELL, NO SURPRISE IF YOU DIDN'T RECOGNISE HER.
THIS IS MEI.
?


WHY'S SHE WEARING YOUR GEAR ANYWAY?
PFT.
HE'S A BIT RUDE BUT UNDERNEATH IT HE'S YOUR KIND BIG BROTHER.
NOW, NOW, DON'T BE SCARED. YOU KNOW HIM, DON'T YOU?


SO LEAVE HER ALONE!
LOOK! DOESN'T IT SUIT HER MORE THAN ME?
WE COULD HARDLY LEAVE HER LOOKING THAT WAY FOREVER, COULD WE?
THE STUPID BLACK-SUITS HAVE NO DELICACY SO THEY WOULDN'T BUY ANYTHING SUITABLE.

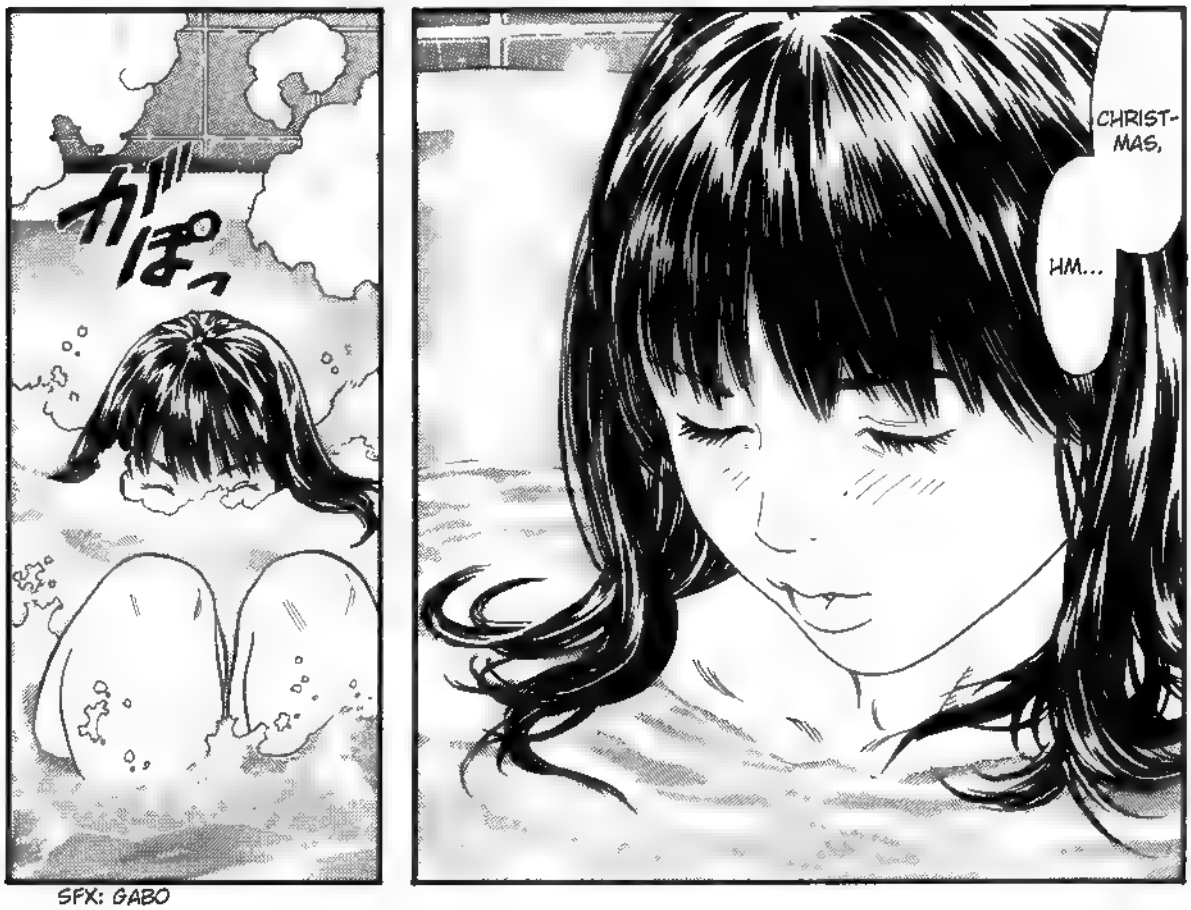

...
SHE'LL MAKE AN EXCELLENT RESEARCH SUBJECT.
I'VE DECIDED TO LOOK AFTER HER.
SAY, DID YOU SEE PROF. SHIBAKI'S MESSAGE?
THERE'S NO RUSH.
THE PAST IS ALWAYS THERE TO LOOK BACK ON.



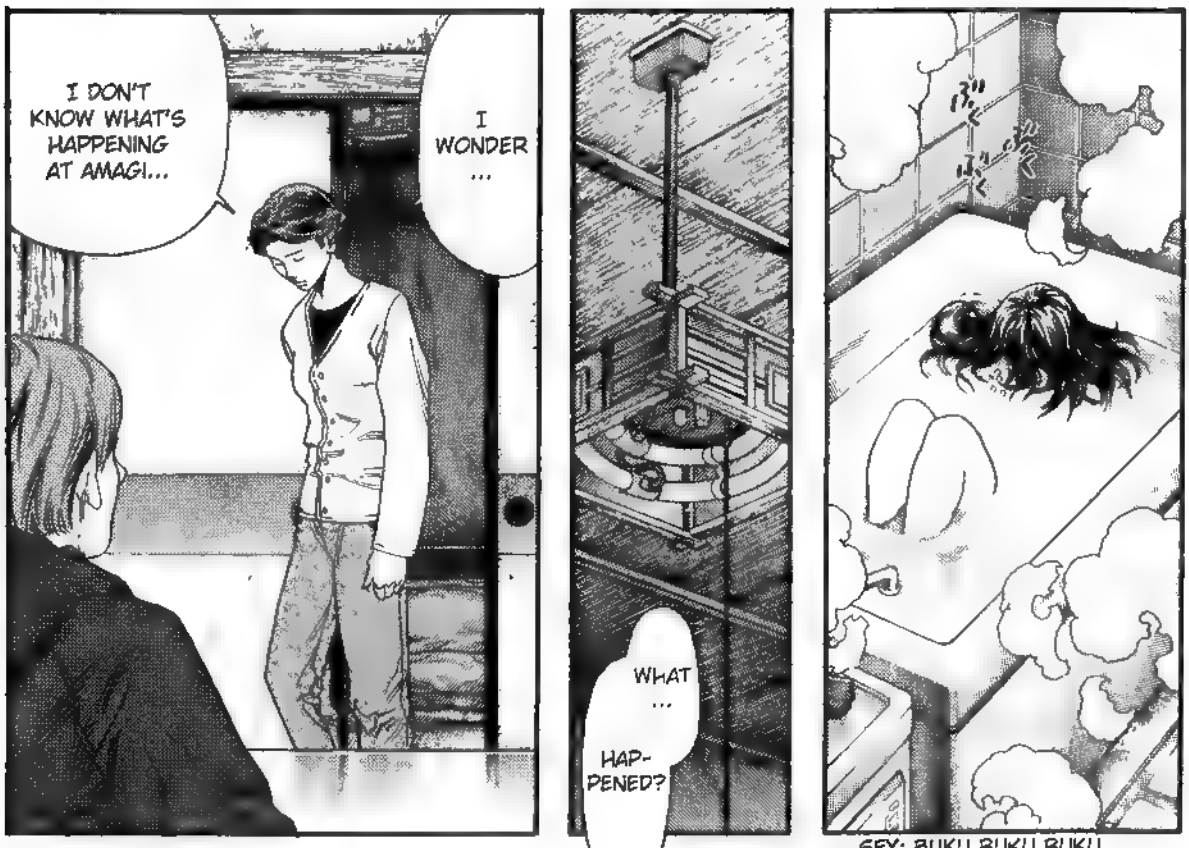




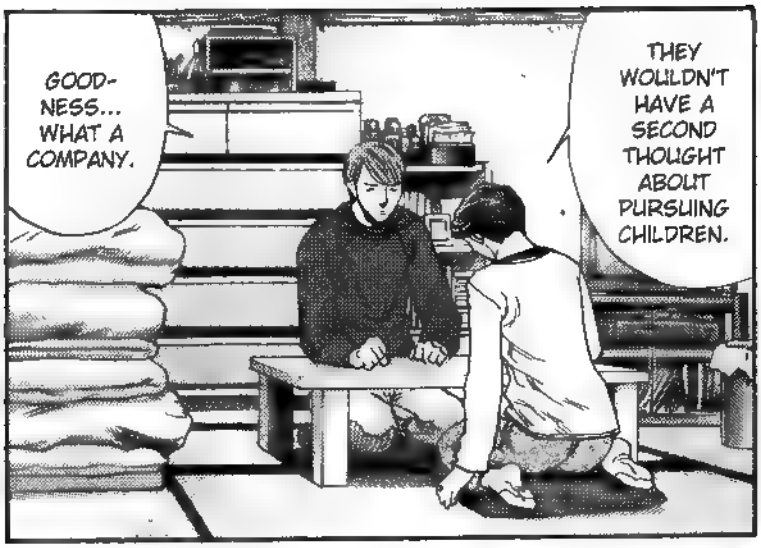

HAA.



SFX: GABO



SFX: BUKU BUKU BUKU


GOOD-NESS... WHAT A COMPANY.
THEY WOULDN'T HAVE A SECOND THOUGHT ABOUT PURSUING CHILDREN.




BUT I DO KNOW,

SFX: TAN

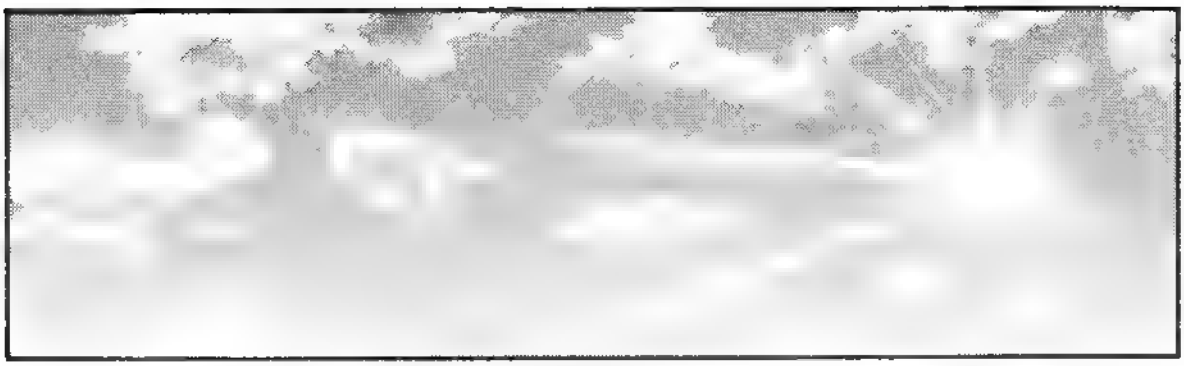

...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'D DO TO US...
MORE IMPORTANTLY THOUGH... NOW HE KNOWS ABOUT US, SEIZOU MIGHT FIND OUT...


THAT CHILD...
WON'T FORGIVE ...


I WISH I COULD TALK TO HIM PROP-ERLY.
KOUGA... IS ANGRY, ISN'T HE ...?



December 24th – Christmas Eve






FUCK!
WHY RESORT TO A FUCKING SUIT?
THEY MUST HAVE HAD STOCK OF MY USUAL BIKER JACKET!
MORN-ING.
YOU'RE SHITTING ME! WHAT'S WITH THESE CLOTHES?
ABOUT TONIGHT...
UM, CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
WHAT!
OH! IT'S THE SAME AS MINE!


IF THE WORST COMES TO THE WORST AND THEY FIND US, IT'D BE EASIER TO DEAL WITH AS A TEAM.
HOW ABOUT A DOUBLE DATE? WE'LL ALL HAVE DINNER TOGETHER.
WH- WHAT?
YOU...
PFT.
NO WAY! I'M NOT SCARED...!
BUT NOW YOU'RE SCARED TO GO ON A DATE ON YOUR OWN?
YOU SAID TO ASK YOU ANYTHING ABOUT GIRLS.



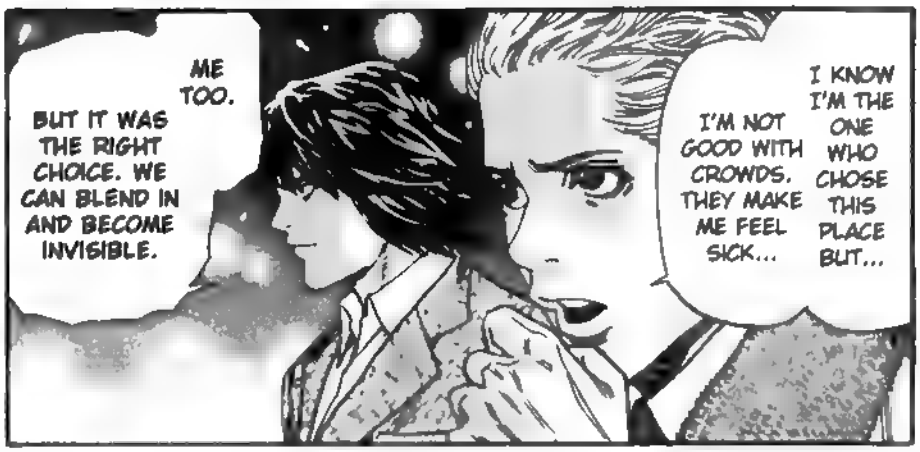


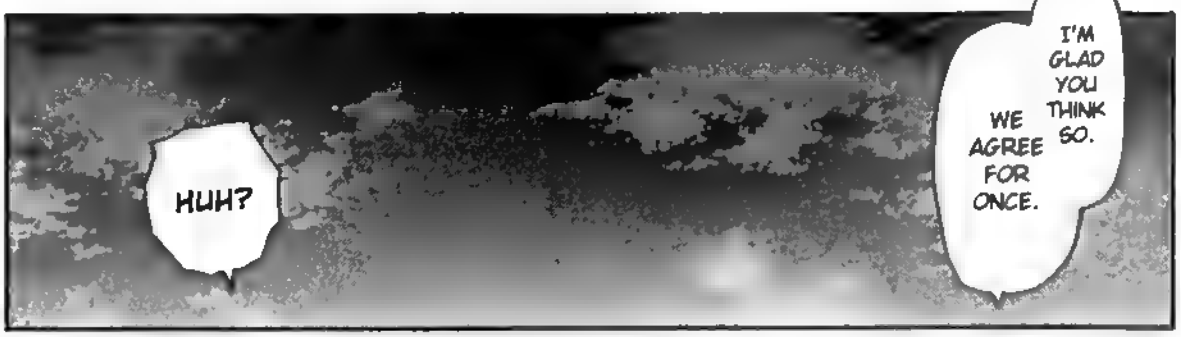









I KNOW I'M THE ONE WHO CHOSE THIS PLACE BUT...
I'M NOT GOOD WITH CROWDS. THEY MAKE ME FEEL SICK...
ME TOO.
BUT IT WAS THE RIGHT CHOICE. WE CAN BLEND IN AND BECOME INVISIBLE.


I'M GLAD YOU THINK SO.
WE AGREE FOR ONCE.
HUH?

Chapter 150
(WHAT THE HELL?)

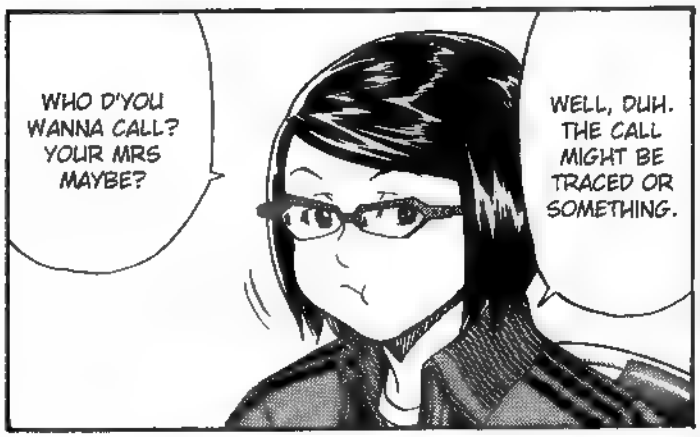


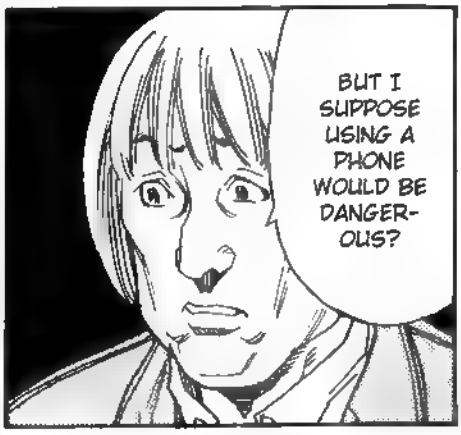



WELL?
MUGU MOGU
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
?
SO YOU CAN SMILE.
WOW! YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL WHEN YOU SMILE!


UMMM... DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
AH! WANNA JOIN US FOR SOME CAKE?
UH... LET'S NOT GO THERE ... THAT SUBJECT'S A BIT...
WAH! HER HAIR! IT'S GROWN THAT MUCH IN JUST ONE NIGHT! THAT'S AMAZING!
HM? CAN I REALLY? THANK YOU!

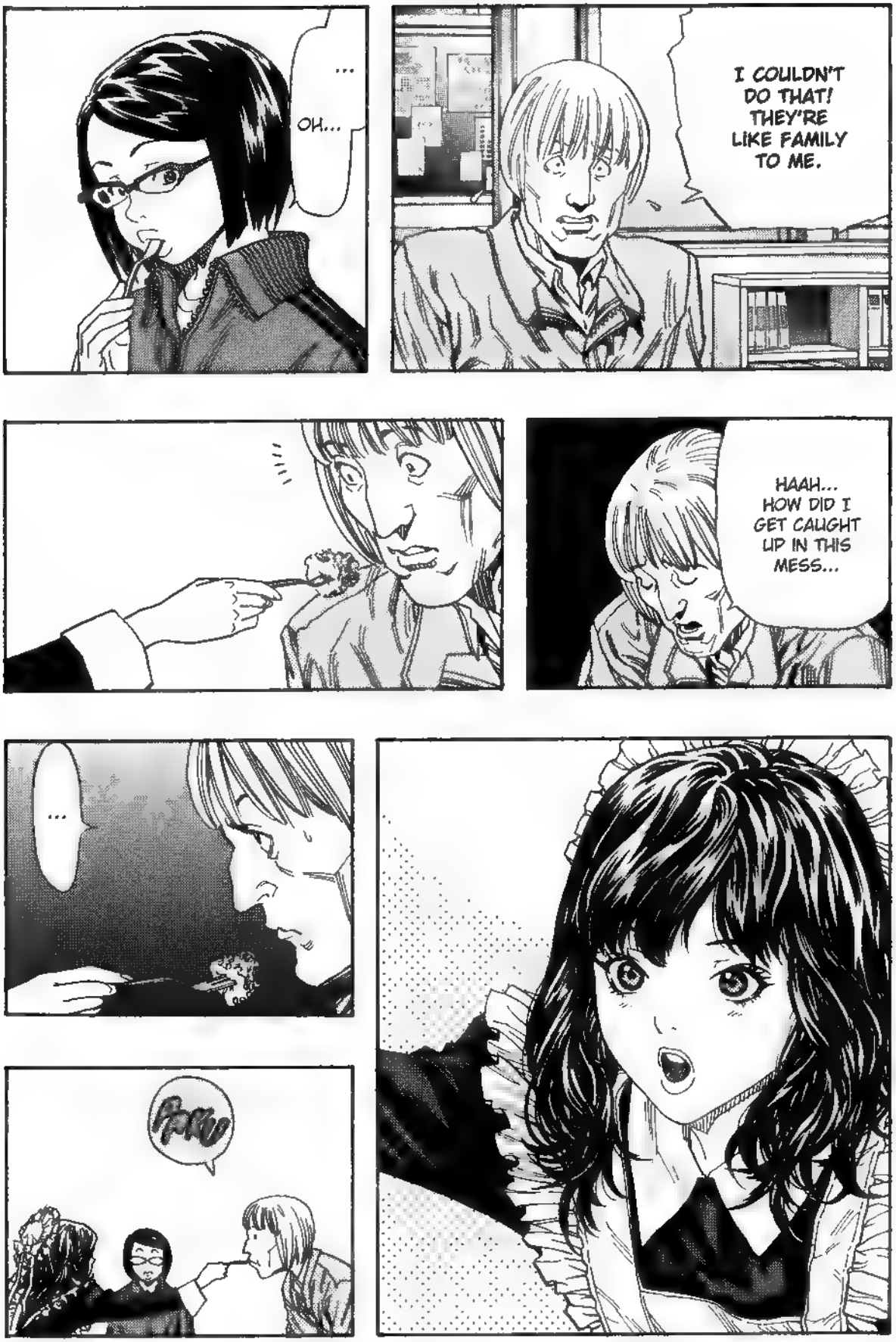

OH,
THIS IS DREAD-FUL...


WHO D'YOU WANNA CALL? YOUR MRS MAYBE?
WELL, DUH. THE CALL MIGHT BE TRACED OR SOMETHING.


BUT I SUPPOSE USING A PHONE WOULD BE DANGER-OUS?


YOU CAN JUST SAY YOU CAME DOWN WITH THE FLU OR SOME-THING.
ONCE YOU'RE ABLE TO CONTACT THEM,
CAN'T YOU JUST LEAVE 'EM BE?
TEAM MATES? FRIENDS??


THEY'LL BE WORRIED SINCE I HAVEN'T BEEN IN TOUCH...
MY TEAM-MATES.
NO, NO, I'M STILL A BACHELOR.


...
OH...
I COULDN'T DO THAT! THEY'RE LIKE FAMILY TO ME.
HAAH... HOW DID I GET CAUGHT UP IN THIS MESS...
...
PAKU



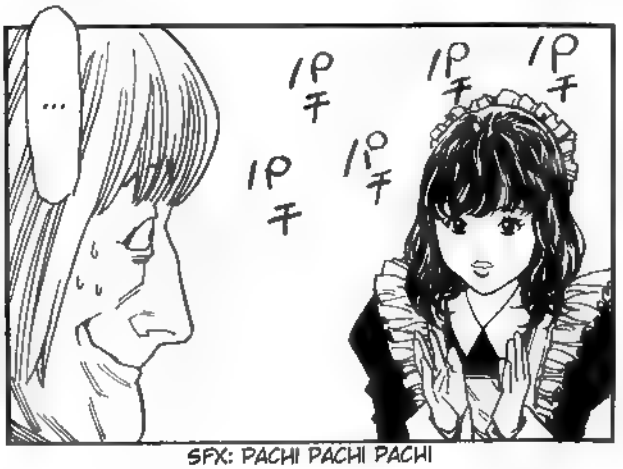


SFX: SMILE

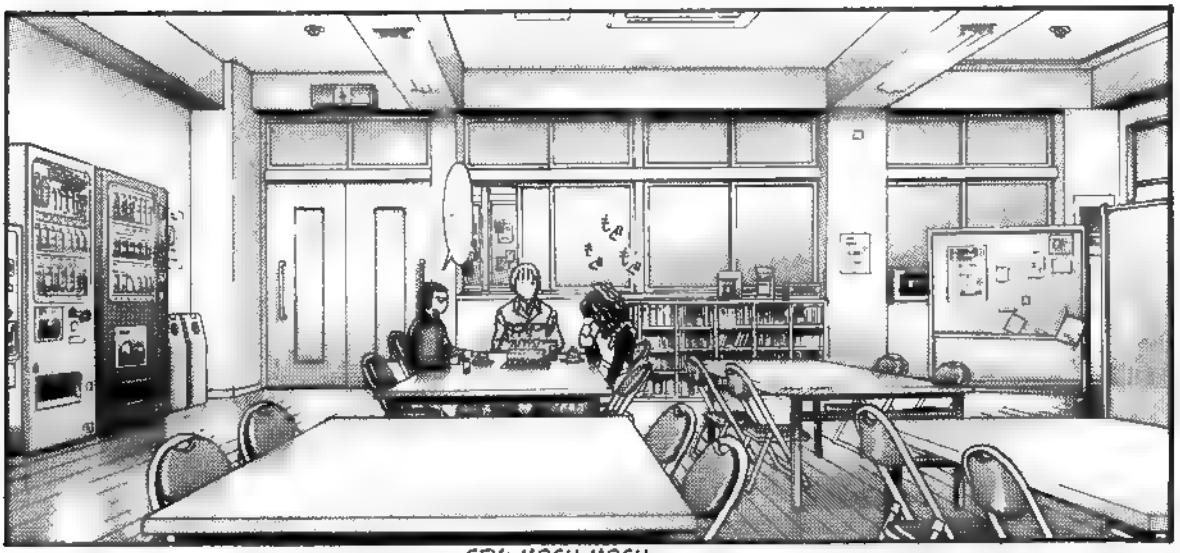


SFX: KUI KUI





SFX: PACHI PACHI PACHI



SFX: MOGU MOGU


AAAGH!
BUT I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO GO OUT.
DIDN'T YOU MAKE ANY CHRISTMAS PLANS WITH YOUR FRIENDS?
BEING COOPED UP IN THE HOUSE ALL DAY IS SO BORING!
KOUGA WENT OUT DIDN'T HE? WHY ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN'T?
...


I DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH, BUT THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING AWFUL GOING ON WITH THE COMPANY.
THEY TOLD ME NOT TO GO OUT.
IF SOME-THING HAPPENED, THEN...


HOW ABOUT SOME CAKE?
OF COURSE, IT'S ONLY A LITTLE ONE.




HE WON'T BE HOME TONIGHT.
HE'S MILES AWAY RIGHT NOW.
HE HAS HIS JOB IN THE DAYTIME AND VOLUNTARY WORK AT NIGHT. HE'S ONLY HOME ON FRIDAY AND SUNDAY, JUST TWO NIGHTS A WEEK.


EH? BUT MR. SUZUKI'S NOT HOME YET.
LET'S WAIT FOR HIM.


HE WORKS SO HARD THAT HE BARELY SLEEPS, SO I HAVE TO BEAR WITH IT TOO.
WELL ...
I'D LOVE TO DO VOLUNTARY WORK EVERY DAY, BUT MY JOB STARTS EARLY IN THE MORNING...
OH, REALLY ...?
DON'T YOU GET LONELY?
...
DESPITE ALL THE TIME I'VE BEEN MEETING YOU BOTH, THERE'S SO MUCH I DIDN'T KNOW.
EVEN IF IT'S DIFFICULT? I DON'T WANT TO MAKE THINGS ANY HARDER.
BUT HE SHOULD COME HOME, EVEN JUST TO SLEEP.


WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR CLOTHES!? YOU'RE WAY OVER-DRESSED!
GYAHA HAHA HA!
SUPER
THOSE CLOTHES ...
DON'T TELL ME...
AH.
SHUT IT.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN SOOO EXCITED ABOUT SEEING ME!?


HM?
GOOD EVENING. NICE TO MEET YOU.
AMAGI. HOW DO YOU DO.
...
WHAT THE HELL ? TRYING TO PICK ME UP RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY BOY-FRIEND!?
HUH!? A WHAT?
I KNOW HIM. WE'RE DOING A DOUBLE DATE TONIGHT.

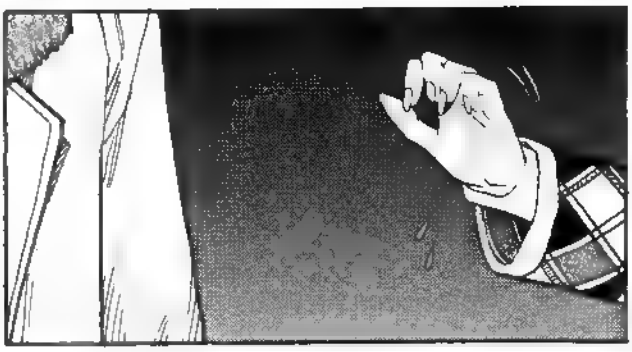


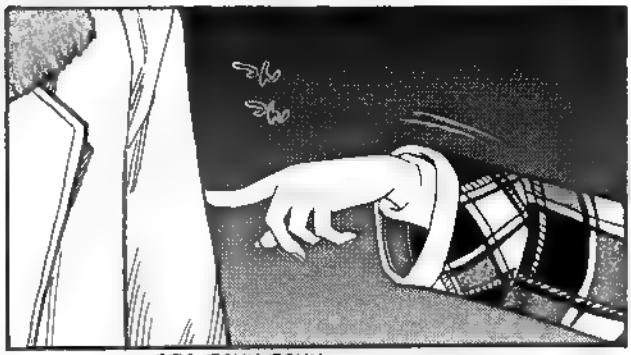












SFX: TSUN TSUN


OH!
E-
EVENING.
I DIDN'T REC-OGNISE YOU FOR A SECOND ...
WITH YOUR NEW LOOK.
... DOESN'T IT SUIT ME?


BUT YOU DIDN'T TELL ME IT WAS A DOUBLE DATE!
AH, SHE'S HERE.
IT DOES! IT REALLY SUITS YOU!
STUDY-ING?
FOR ME?
COME ON, IT'LL BE FINE.
HE SAID HE'D TEACH ME HOW TO TREAT WOMEN PROPERLY.
IT'LL BE LIKE A CASE STUDY FOR ME.
HEY, WHAT ARE WE DOING NOW?
OH, SO THAT'S WHAT THIS IS ABOUT!


...
I HAVE A RESERVATION AT A RESTAURANT.
?
SFX: ZAH ZAH
SHALL WE GO?
LET'S DO THE INTRODUCTIONS ONCE WE'VE ARRIVED AND CAN RELAX.
HEEEY!
AND WE'LL PAY IN CASH.
DON'T WORRY, I USED A FAKE NAME.
IS IT SAFE TO HAVE A RESERVATION?


ANYWAY, THIS IS THE MIDDLE-CLASS NEIGHBOUR-HOOD WITH THE HIGHEST POPULATION DENSITY.
EVEN IF THEY CAME THEY'D LOSE US LIKE THAT.
HMNN.
I JUST MADE A WITH-DRAWAL ON AN UNTRACEABLE CREDIT CARD I GOT FROM THE BLACKSUITS.
YOU GOT CASH ON YOU?





SFX ZAH ZAH



SFX ZAH ZAH






YO, QUIT IT,
PUT THE FREAKY TONGUE AWAY.
WHAT IF SOMEONE SEES YOU?


LOOK AT YOU, ALL DISCREET.
ME, NOTHIN' CAN KEEP ME DOWN NOW.


HEH, IF I'M SEEN, I'M SEEN.


I JUST WANNA FUCK THEM ALL UP.
LOOK AT THESE BASTARDS GRINNING LIKE RETARDS.

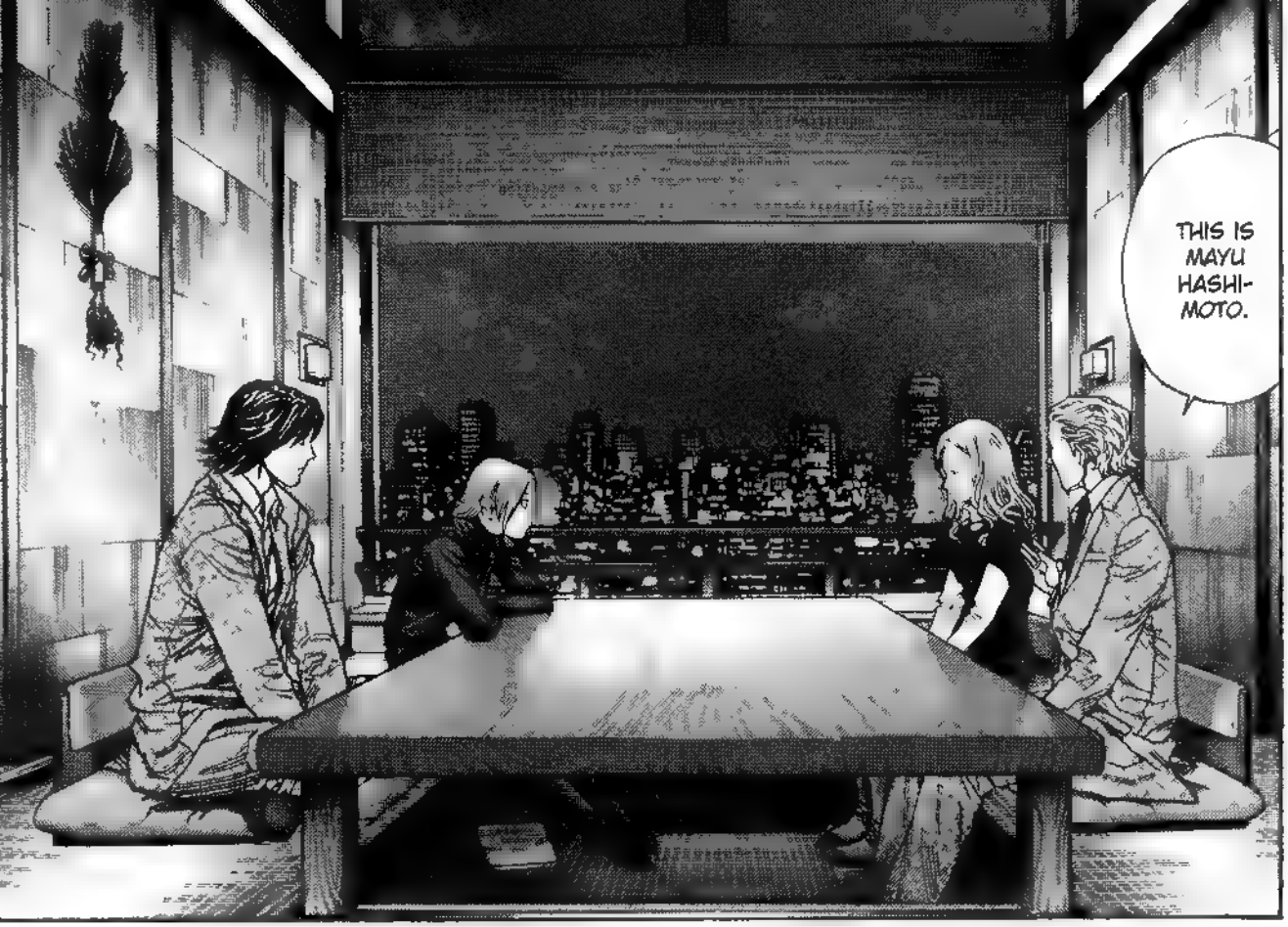


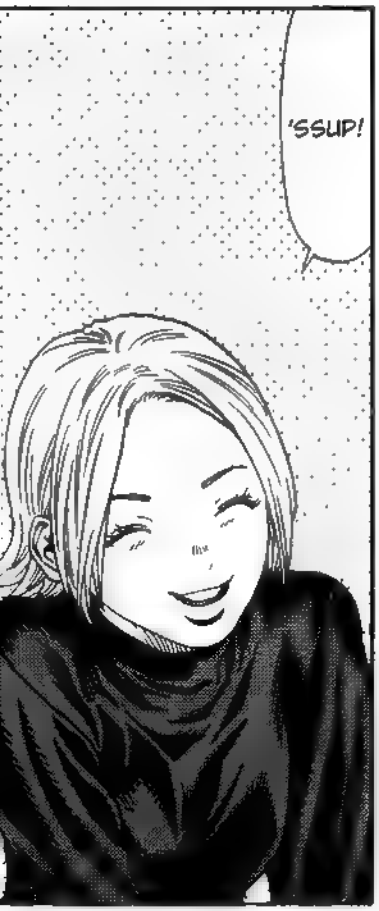
Chapter 152
(BIRD WITH A BROKEN WING)

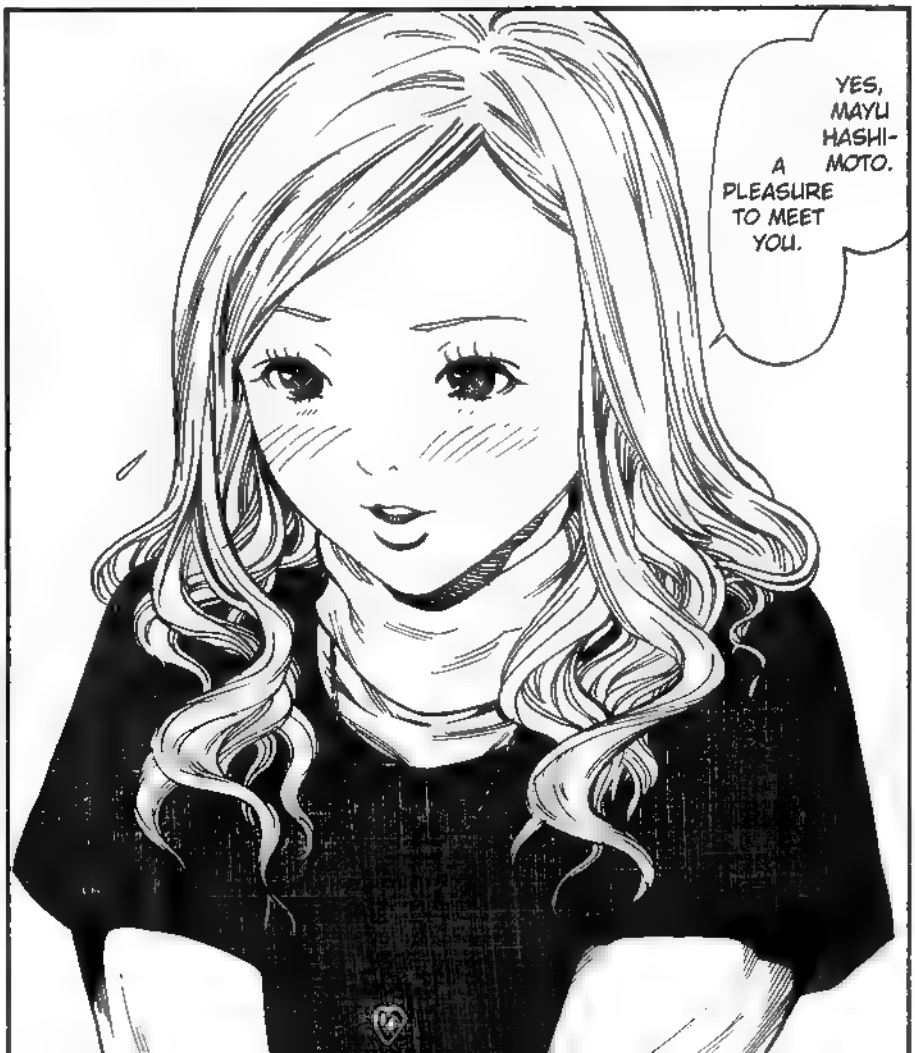


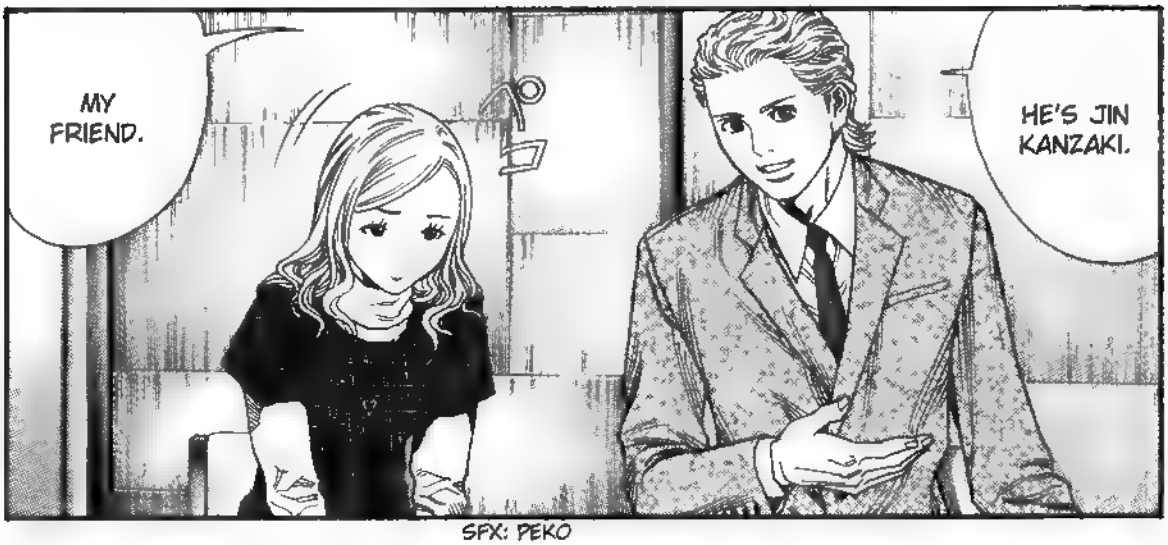





THIS IS MAYU HASHI-MOTO.


'SSUP!


YES, MAYU HASHI-MOTO. A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.


MY FRIEND.
HE'S JIN KANZAKI.

SFX: PEKO


HOW DOES HE KEEP A STRAIGHT FACE...


I REALLY RESPECT HIM.
AND ROLE MODEL ...


KEKE KE.
SHUT IT. YOU GONNA INTRODUCE YOURSELF OR WHAT?


YOU'D BETTER STRAI-GHTEN OUT!
HEAR THAT? HE RESPECTS YOU! WHATCHA GONNA DO, HUH?


UH,
HI.
SHE'S HANAKO TANAKA.
CALL HER HANAKO.
PAKI!
YOU KNOW I HATE BEING CALLED THAT!
SFX: PAKON
YOU LOOK SO CLOSE ...
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE STRONGER THAN JIN BEFORE.
SFX: GOTSU BAKI

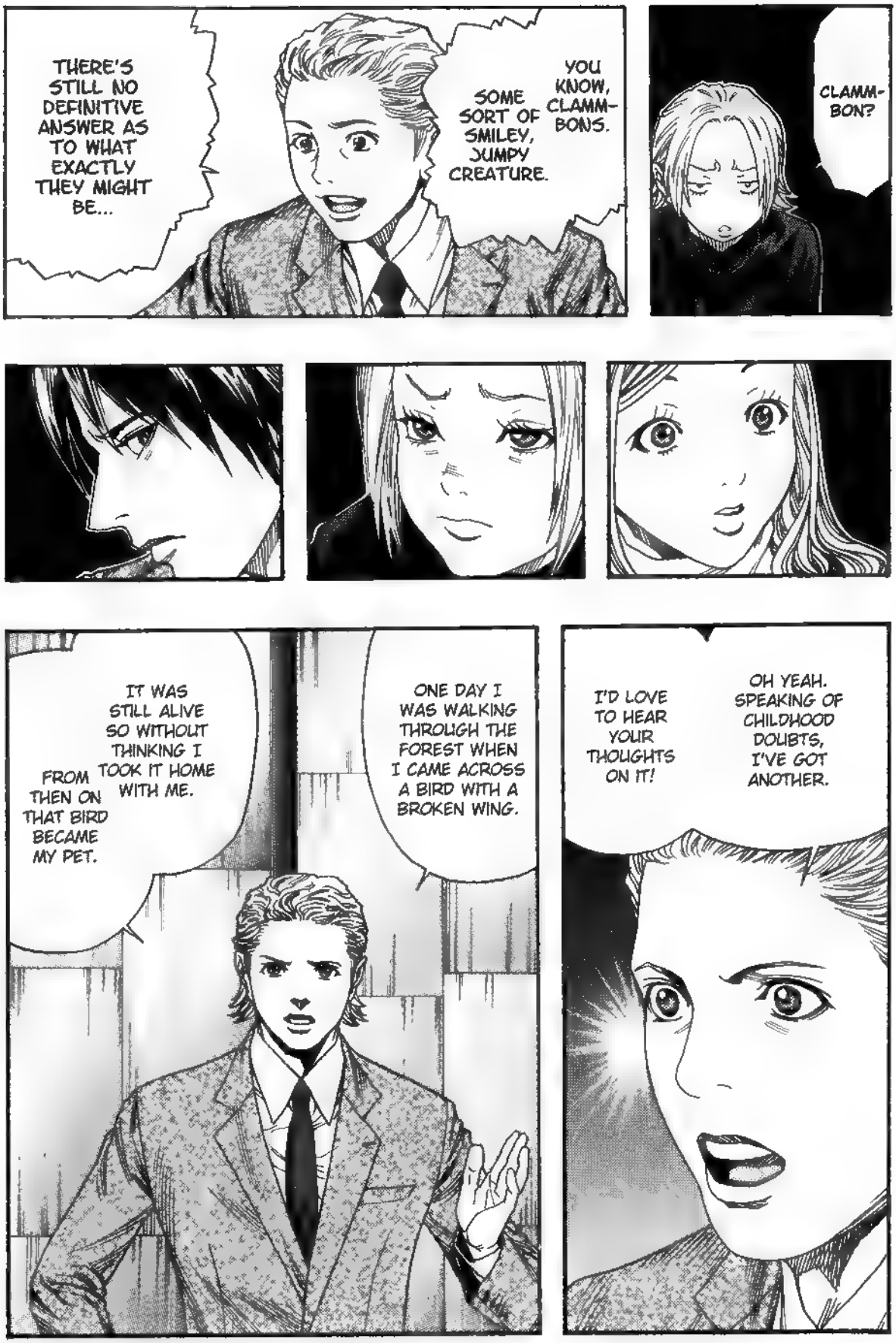

...
NO WAY!
NOT AT ALL, NUH-UH!


HOLD UP.
CHANGING THE SUBJECT, LET ME CLEAR UP A DOUBT I HAVE.
UM ...
WHAT IS IT?


YOU SAY YOU'RE GOOD MATES.
DON'T LOOK IT TO ME THOUGH.
HOW DO YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
THAT'S KINDA CREEPY.
BUT YOU'RE WEARING MATCHING SUITS.
HMM.
NOT VERY CON-VINCING ...
... NOT WORTH CALLING A DOUBT!
IT'S NOTHING BUT A COINCI-DENCE!
THAT'S ...
HEH.
I HEAR YOU.


THAT'S NOT WHAT I ASKED.
THAT'S THE WAY OF THINGS!
AREN'T THERE MANY INEXPLICABLE DOUBTS IN THE WORLD?
HEY, SAVE ME!
SFX: CHIRA
IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE.
DUDE... YOU'RE SO HONEST IT HURTS.
YOU SUCK AT LYING.
SFX: NYA NYA
WHAT IS A *CLAMM-BON!?
AAAND ...
LIKE ...
OH? LIKE WHAT?
THERE'S PLENTY OF DOUBTS FROM MY CHILDHOOD THAT I STILL HAVEN'T CLEARED UP.

THIS IS A REFERENCE TO A KENJI MIYAZAWA SHORT STORY "YAMANASHI". OFTEN STUDIED IN JAPANESE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, IT FEATURES A MYSTERIOUS CONVERSATION BETWEEN CRABS ABOUT THE LAUGHTER AND SUBSEQUENT MURDER OF A "CLAMMBON".


THERE'S STILL NO DEFINITIVE ANSWER AS TO WHAT EXACTLY THEY MIGHT BE...
SOME SORT OF SMILEY, JUMPY CREATURE.
YOU KNOW, CLAMM-BONS.
CLAMM-BON?
ONE DAY I WAS WALKING THROUGH THE FOREST WHEN I CAME ACROSS A BIRD WITH A BROKEN WING.
IT WAS STILL ALIVE SO WITHOUT THINKING I TOOK IT HOME WITH ME.
FROM THEN ON THAT BIRD BECAME MY PET.
OH YEAH. SPEAKING OF CHILDHOOD DOUBTS, I'VE GOT ANOTHER.
I'D LOVE TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS ON IT!

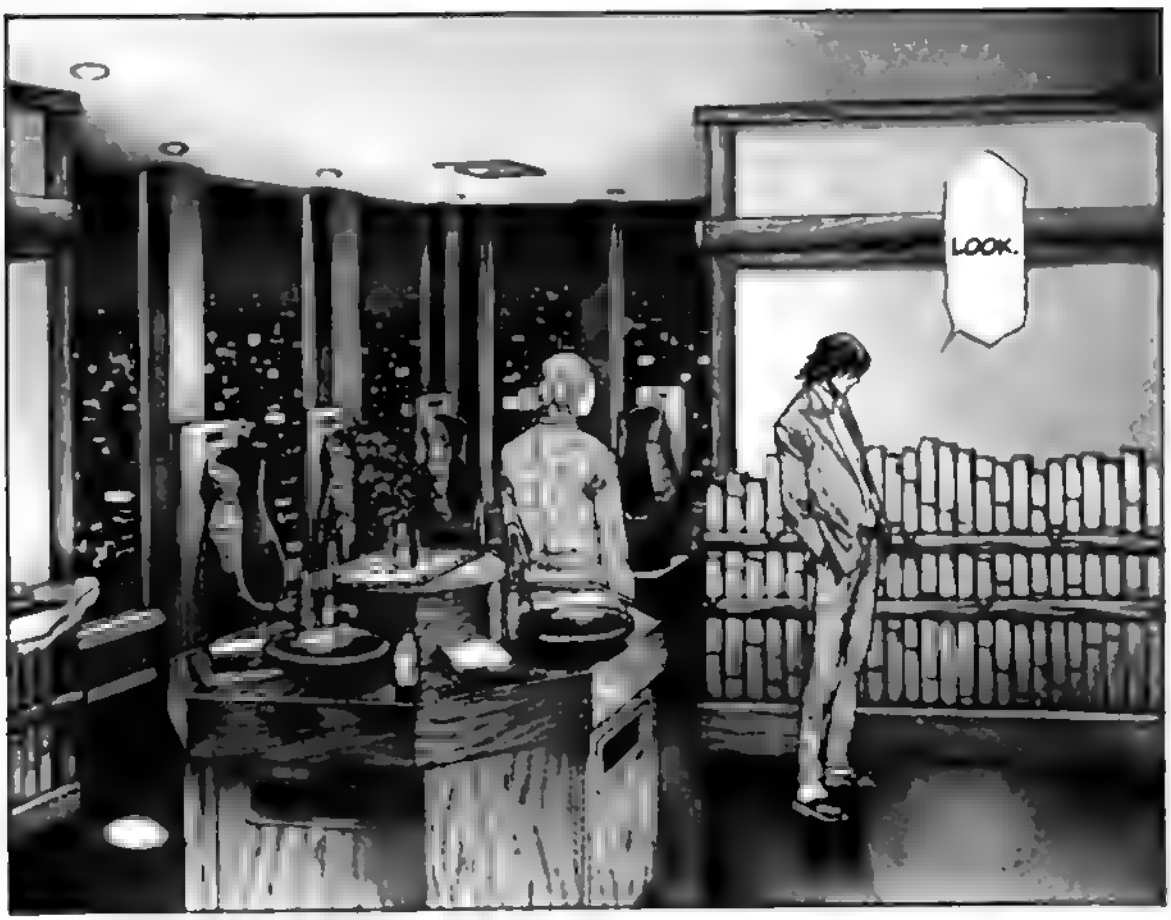

I STILL DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER ...
THAT DOUBT IS STILL LODGED IN A CORNER OF MY HEART.
SHOULD I HAVE LET NATURE TAKE ITS COURSE?
UNABLE TO FLY AND ROBBED OF ITS FREEDOM, WAS IT HAPPY TO BE ALIVE...?
THAT'S WHEN THE DOUBT FIRST FORMED WITHIN ME.
BUT LATER IT SEEMED LIKE IT HAD LOST ALL VITALITY AND WAS SLIPPING AWAY FROM ME...
WHAT WOULD YOU ALL HAVE DONE?
SO, TO MY QUES-TION.
Hm?


WHAT WERE YOU PANICK-ING FOR?
YOU'RE AN IDIOT.
...
WE MET IN THE FIRE, WE COULDN'T GET OUT TO BUY CLOTHES, ALL THAT STUFF.
COVER UP THE BAD SHIT BUT EVERY-THING ELSE IS FINE.
I'M TERRIBLE AT TALKING TO GIRLS ...
I KNEW IT.
I'M ASHAMED ...
THAT WAS NO CONVERSATION FOR CHRISTMAS EVE... OR FOR A DATE...


GIVE ME A BREAK, JIN.
HUH ...
YOU'RE PRETTY INTER-ESTING.
WELL... AT LEAST IT WAS FUN TO WATCH YOU FREAKING OUT.
ANYWAY ...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HMPH.
I WANTED YOUR OPINION MOST OF ALL.
BACK TO OUR PREVIOUS TOPIC. WHICH WOULD THE BIRD HAVE PRE-FERRED?
HM?

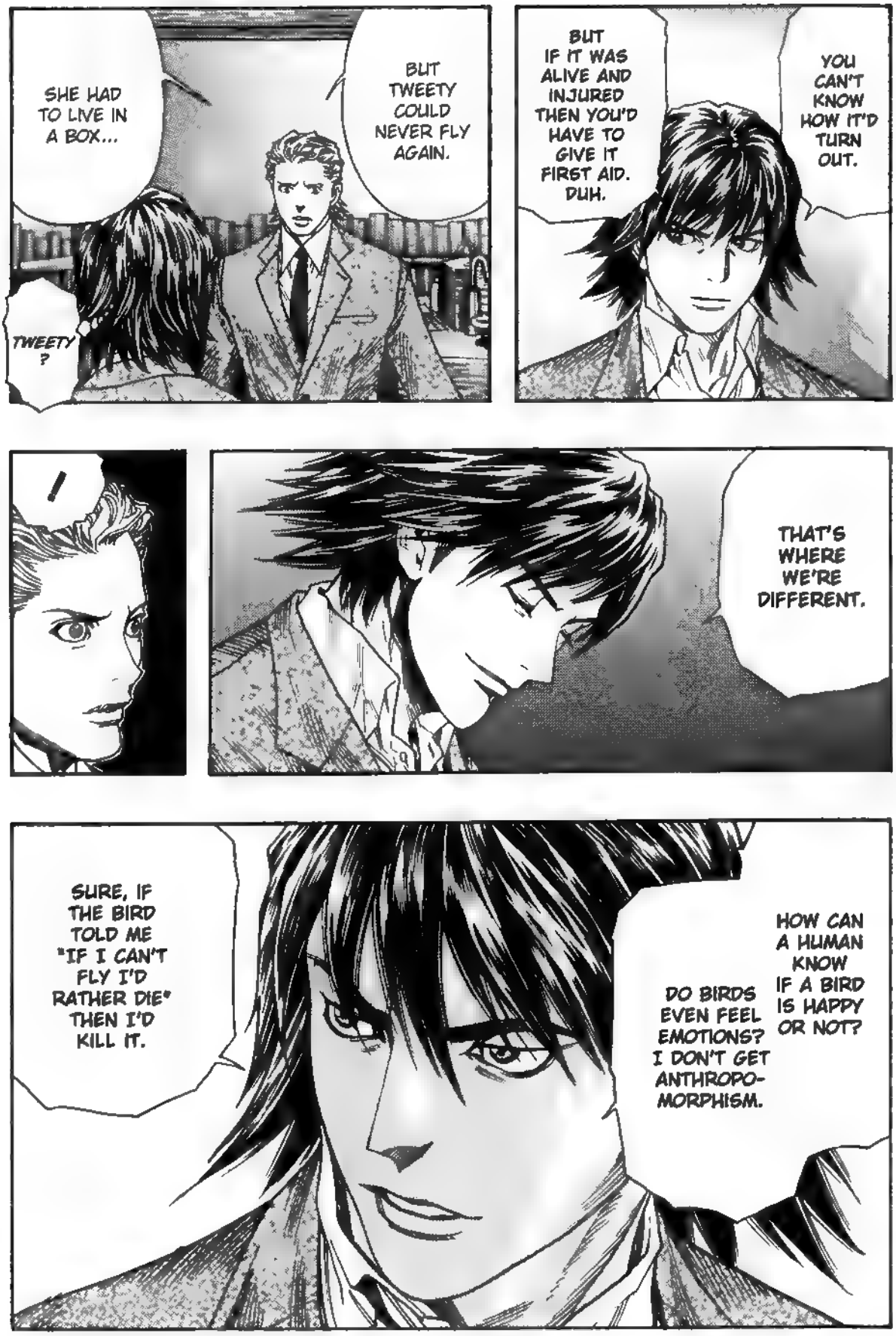

I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR JUSTICE.
TELL ME.
WHAT WOULD JIN DO? I KNOW IT'S A TRIFLING THING,
BUT I WAS DYING TO KNOW YOUR ANSWER.
THE TRUTH IS, EVER SINCE WE MET IN THE FIRE, I WAS REMINDED OF THE BIRD AND I STARTED ASKING MYSELF...
...

Chapter 153
(JUSTICE FREAK)






...
DUDE'S JUSTICE FETISH IS TOTALLY HARD-CORE...
SFX: GAGAH
EVERY-THING.
IN THE BROADER SENSE...
YOU MEET A CHICK IN THE FOREST WITH A BROKEN WING. WHAT DO YOU DO?
UM... REMIND ME?
EH?
THE SAME THING YOU DID.
FINE.
ISN'T HE CHANG-ING THE STORY?
A CHICK?


SHE HAD TO LIVE IN A BOX...
BUT TWEETY COULD NEVER FLY AGAIN.
TWEETY ?
BUT IF IT WAS ALIVE AND INJURED THEN YOU'D HAVE TO GIVE IT FIRST AID. DUH.
YOU CAN'T KNOW HOW IT'D TURN OUT.
!
THAT'S WHERE WE'RE DIFFERENT.
SURE, IF THE BIRD TOLD ME "IF I CAN'T FLY I'D RATHER DIE" THEN I'D KILL IT.
DO BIRDS EVEN FEEL EMOTIONS? I DON'T GET ANTHROPO-MORPHISM.
HOW CAN A HUMAN KNOW IF A BIRD IS HAPPY OR NOT?


YOU HAVE AN EGO...
SAYING THAT...
EMPATHY IS PROBABLY HUMANITY'S BEST FEATURE, DON'T YOU THINK?
THERE ARE FOUR SURVIVORS OF A SHIPWRECK.
THE SAFETY LIMIT OF THE LIFE RAFT ONLY ALLOWS FOR TWO OF THEM.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
AH, ONE MORE QUES-TION!
OY.
NOW, LOOK.
SFX: KIIII



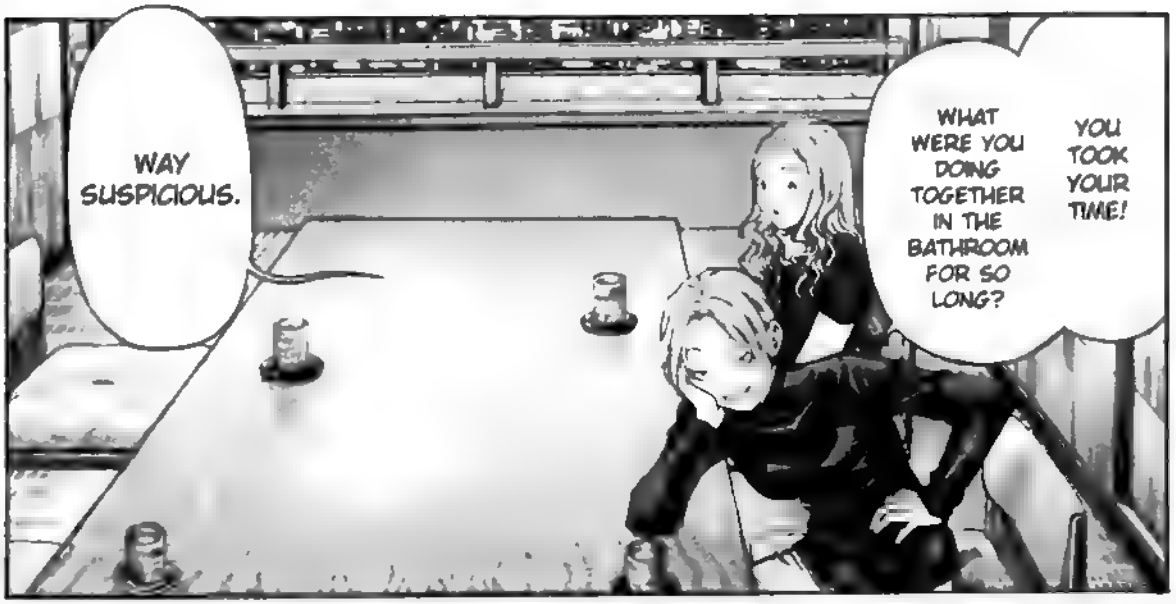

!


!?


...


HEY!


... DUNNO ...
SAME AFTEREFFECT, HUH...
SHIT... I BLACKED OUT AGAIN...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
NOT EXACTLY ...
YOU WERE ACTING A BIT ABNORMALLY THOUGH.
DID I... DO SOME-THING?
...
YEAH ...
GOOD IDEA...
WE ALREADY FINISHED DINNER, SO SHALL WE BRING THE EVENING TO A CLOSE?

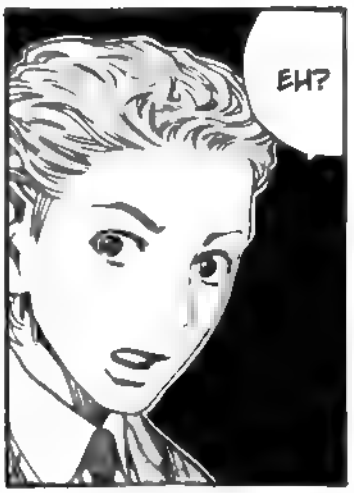

WAY SUSPICIOUS.
WHAT WERE YOU DOING TOGETHER IN THE BATHROOM FOR SO LONG?
YOU TOOK YOUR TIME!


ABOUT HOW YOU GUYS MET.
YOU KNOW, I'VE JUST BEEN HEARING ...
AHH.


?
YEAH, YOU'D THINK.
NORMALLY.


SHE SAYS YOU WERE THE ONE TO ASK HER OUT?


SORRY.


EH?

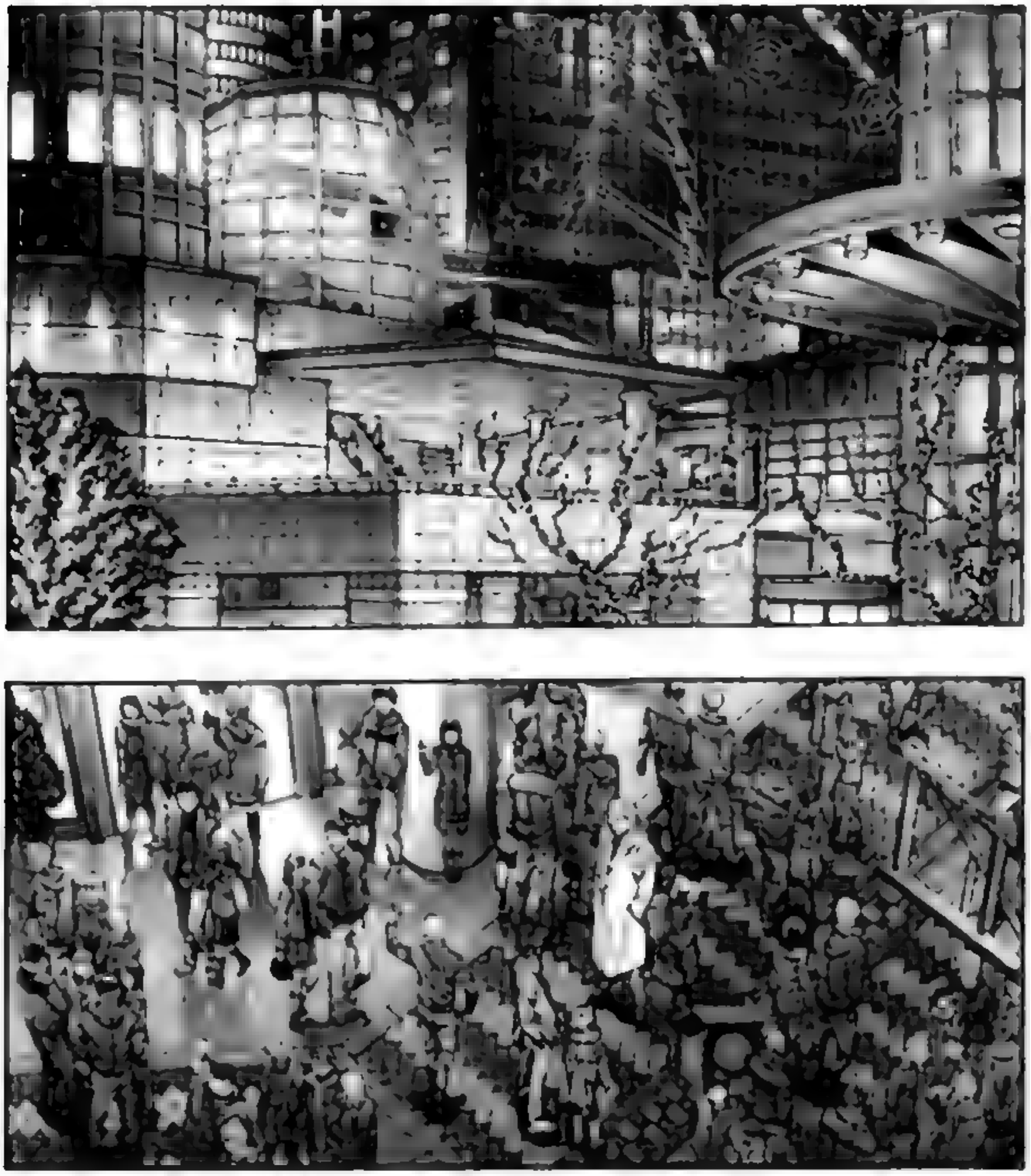

YES ...
IT WAS A COINCI-DENCE.
WE MET THROUGH DAD'S COMPANY.
AND THEN FELL FOR EACH OTHER.
UH ...
THAT'S RIGHT.
YEAH,
WHEN I WENT OVER TO RETURN HER SCHOOL NOTE-BOOK.
HEY.
WE'RE LEAVING, HANAKO.
HEH.
AND I TOLD YOU NOT TO CALL ME THAT!
WHAT?
WHY?
SO SUD-DENLY?


SO WE WERE THINKING TO CALL IT A NIGHT...
HE'S FEELING A BIT SICK.
EH?
REALLY ?
UH, YOUR FACE IS A FUNNY COLOUR.
WOULD YOU MIND IF I CALL YOU A TAXI?
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE JIN HOME.
YEAH... THANKS.
I'M OK...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT ?
RIGHT?
EH?
YOU SHOULD CONTINUE YOUR DATE!
NO WAY! I'LL TAKE JIN HOME!


DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, TONIGHT IS OUR TREAT.
HOW MUCH DO WE NEED TO PAY?
AH.
WHAAAT!?
NOT YOU, PAY UP.
CHEERS!
WOW ...
...
BUT!
YOU'RE SO LOUD!


NO SENDING HER HOME!
OH YEAH! MAKE SURE YOU'RE A GOOD ESCORT FOR HER TONIGHT, OK?
YEAH.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
EEK!
SHE'S WEARING HER LUCKY PANTIES!
.....
.....
.....
???

Chapter 154
(KOUGA & MAYU)



HAVE FUN!

SURE.

ALRIGHT, TAKE CARE.

OH, I FOR-GOT.

AGH, I'M WORRIED ...

BUT... WHERE IS JIN INTENDING TO GO...? HE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE HOSTEL...

DIDN'T ANSWER YOU, DID I?

WHAT THE FUCK'S A SAFETY LIMIT?

NOT MUCH OF A QUESTION THOUGH.

I THOUGHT AS MUCH...

?

STILL...

I'M GLAD... I KNOW HOW YOU THINK TO SOME EXTENT BUT DO I UNDERSTAND YOU...?

THAT'S HOW YOU THINK.

BUT DO YOU EVEN EMPATHISE WITH HUMANS? ISN'T YOUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE SIMPLY TO SAVE LIVES...?

YOU SAID IT WAS STRANGE TO FEEL EMPATHY TOWARDS AN ANIMAL...

EMPATHY...

I HAVE A NEW DOUBT...

UM...

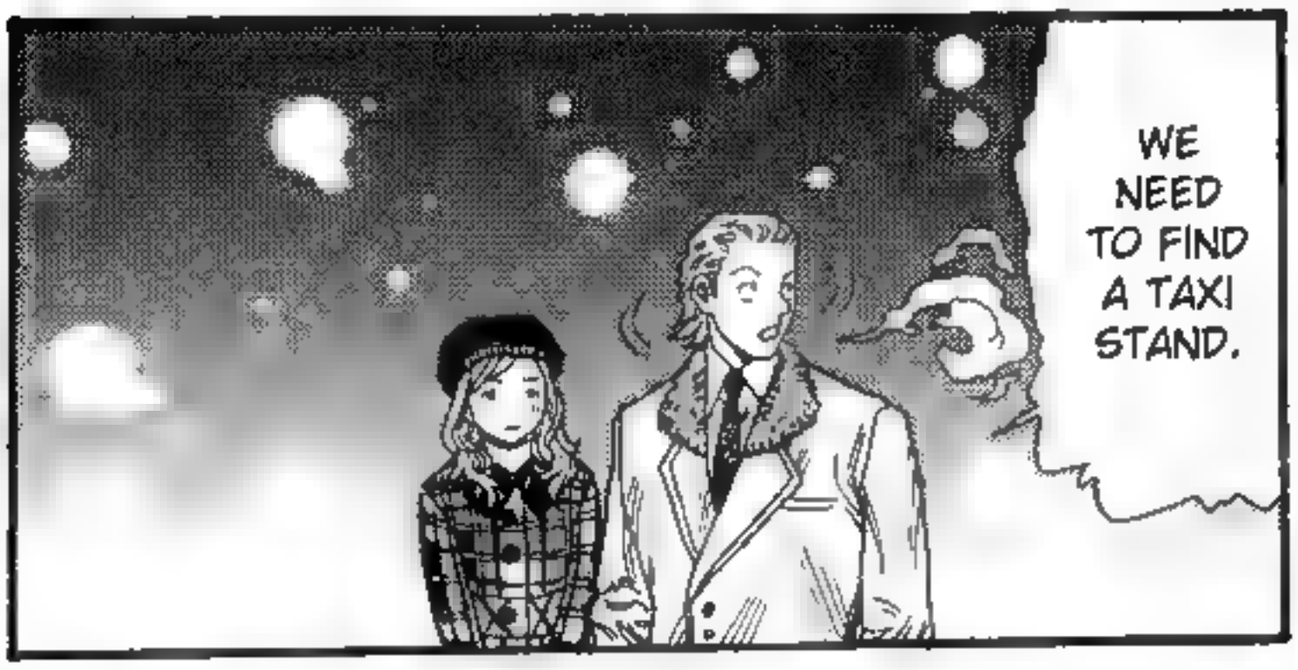
SINCE PLAYERS ARE ALSO ALIVE...

SO WOULD YOU INSIST ON SAVING THE LIFE OF A VILLAIN TOO...? IN WHICH CASE...

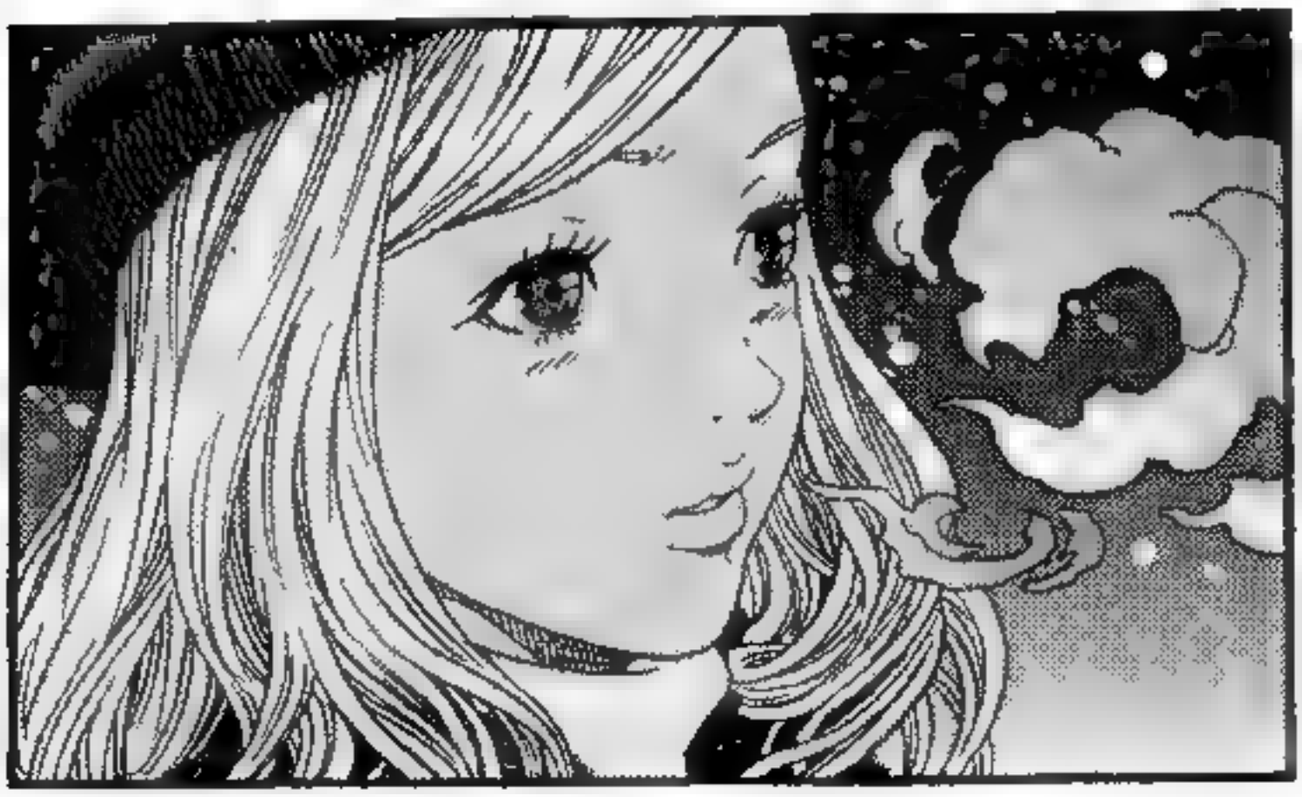
!


HM?


WHERE ARE WE GOING?


WE NEED TO FIND A TAXI STAND.


I'M SORRY, I WAS THINKING.
AH...
OH...



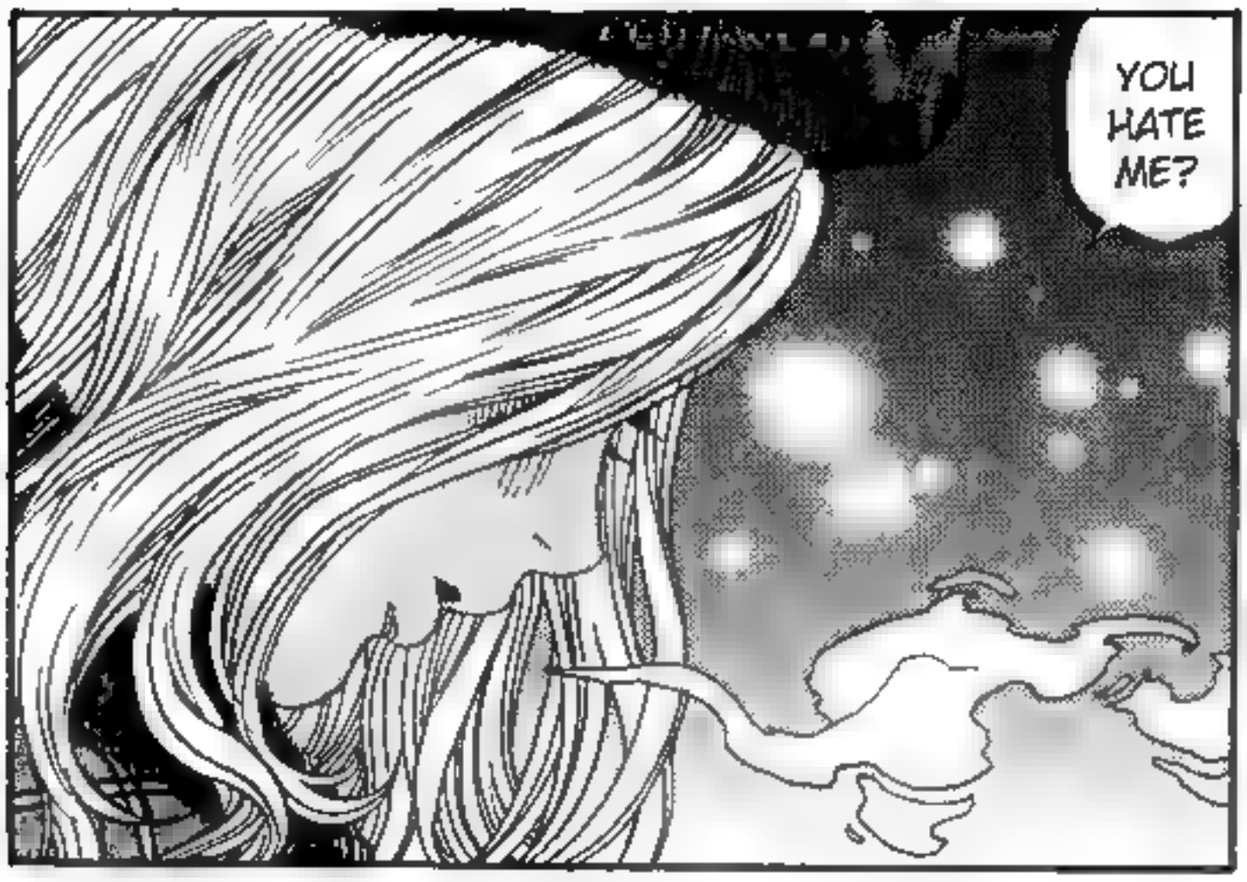
TO-NIGHT ...

HM?

KOUGA!

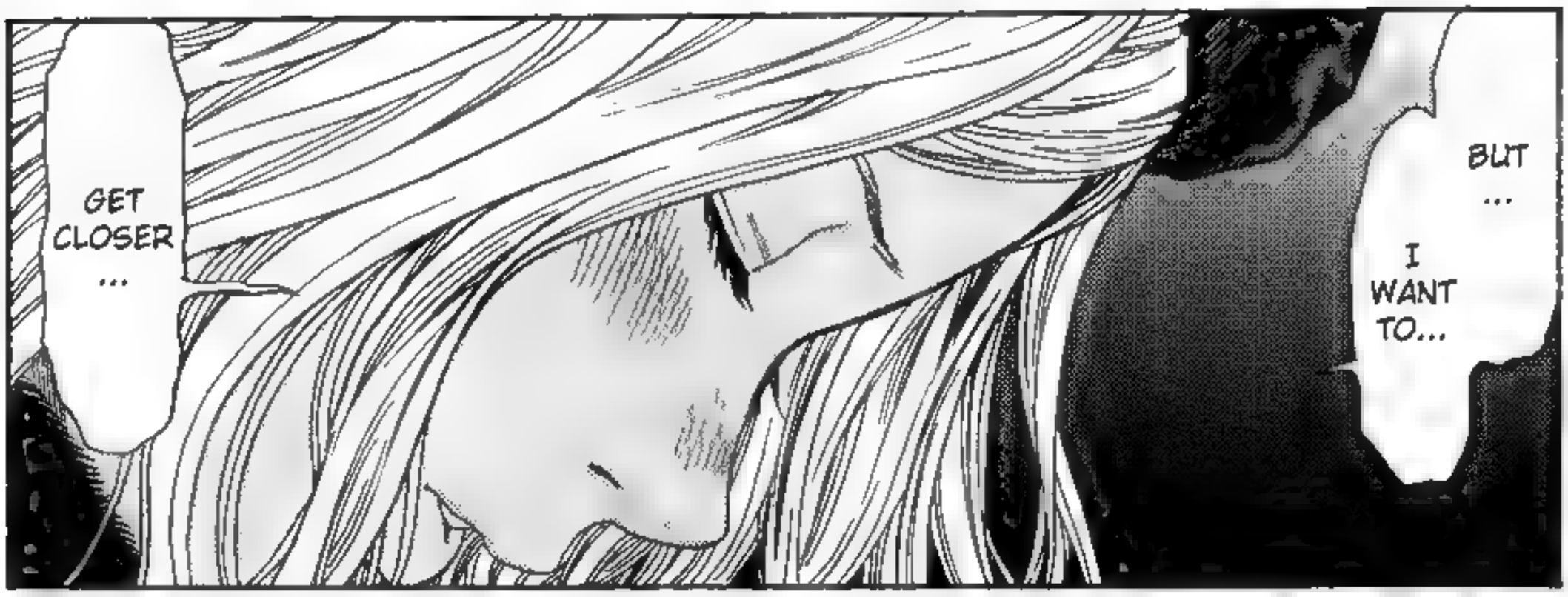
I'D LIKE TO SPEND ... THE WHOLE NIGHT TO-GETH-ER.

HUH?


YOU HATE ME?


WON'T YOUR PARENTS ...
BE WOR-RIED?
IF YOU DON'T GO HOME,


TOO ...
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU...
NOT AT ALL! THE OPPO-SITE!


GET CLOSER ...
BUT ...
I WANT TO...


?

SFX: ZAH

SFX: KUSU

WE'RE CLOSER.

...

?

BUT I KNEW IT...

KOUGA'S SO PURE... SO INNOCENT... I LOVE THAT...

DUMMY.


I'M NOT THERE WHEN


I HAVE TO CLEAR THINGS UP TONIGHT...


WHAT DOES HE LIKE ABOUT ME...?
WHY IS HE LETTING ME BE HIS GIRLFRIEND ...?



BUT...

FINALLY, SOME-WHERE QUIET...

AH, THAT'S BETTER ...

PFFF.

SFX: DOSAH

SFX: DOKI

SFX: BAH

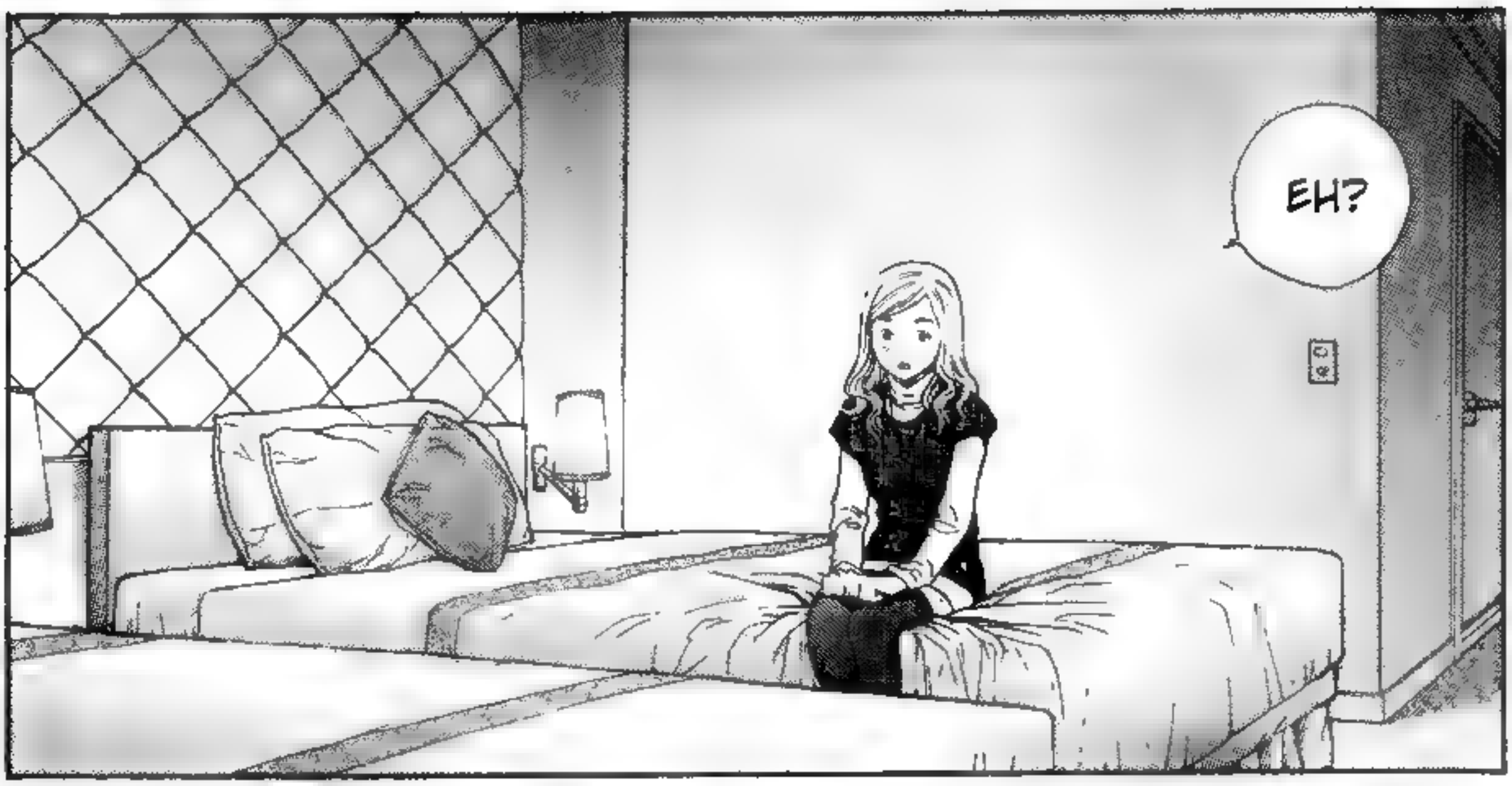
HOW ABOUT A BATH?

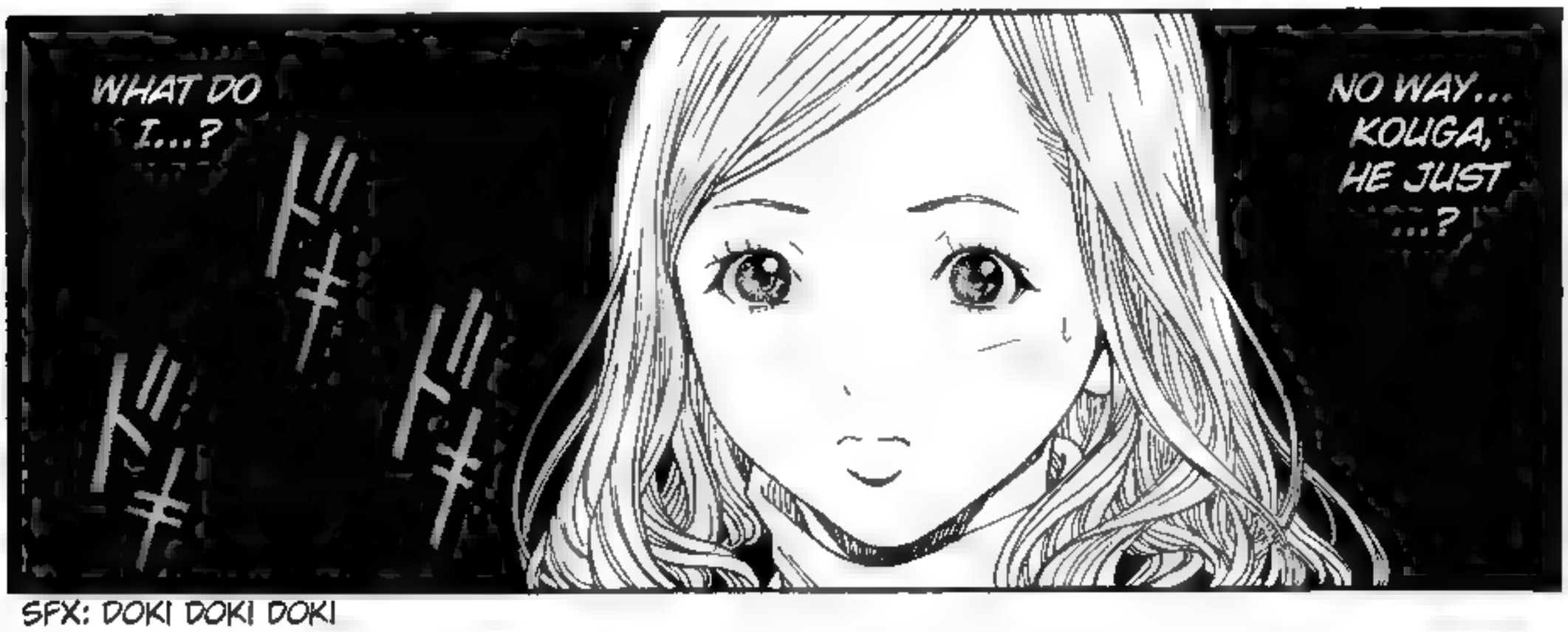
OK.

I'M SCARED ...

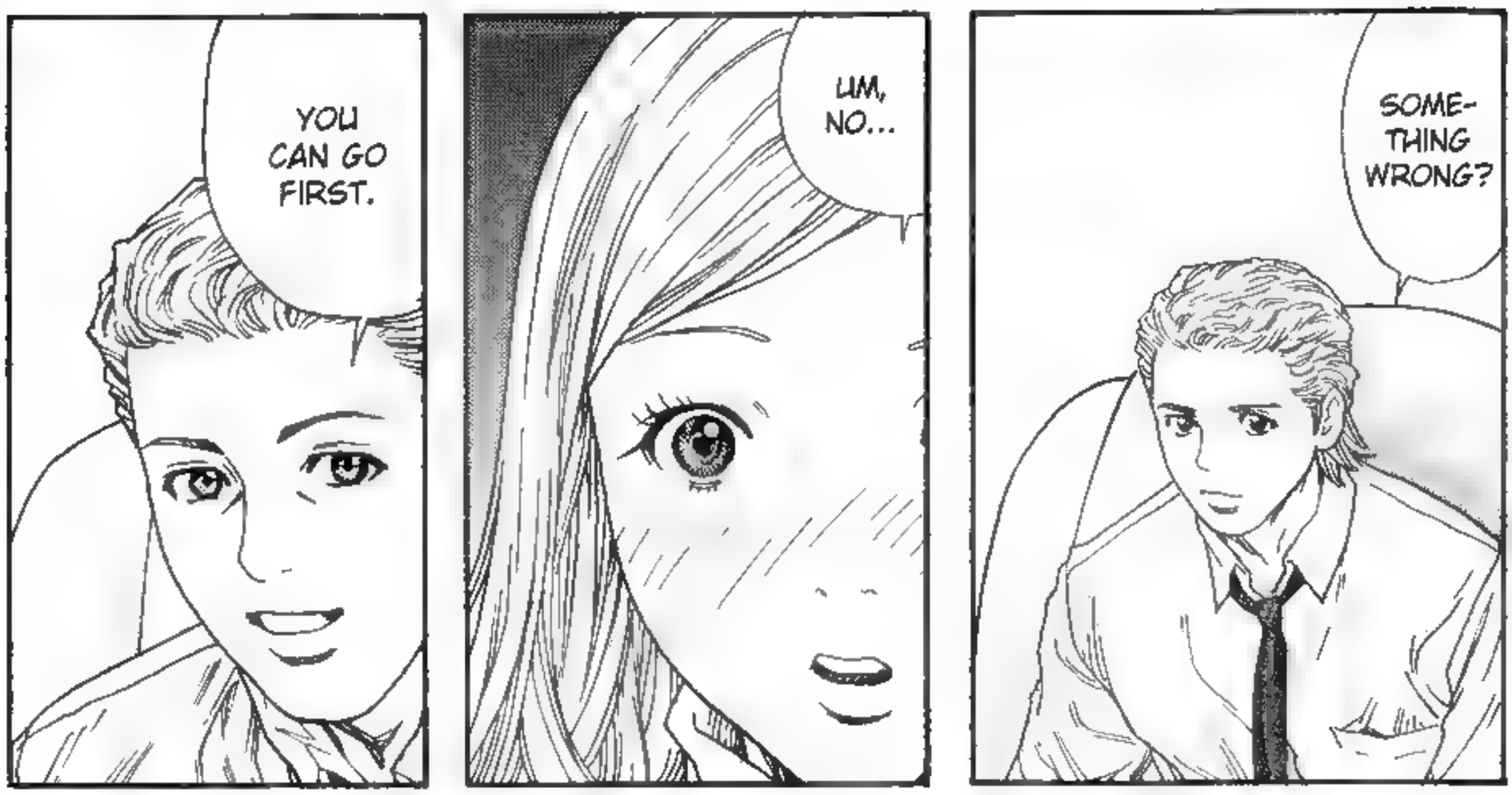
ドキ ドキ

SFX: DOKI DOKI DOKI





SFX: DOKI DOKI DOKI



OH, UH,

YEAH.

HUH?

かあお

SFX: KAAA

ENJOY.

THEN ...

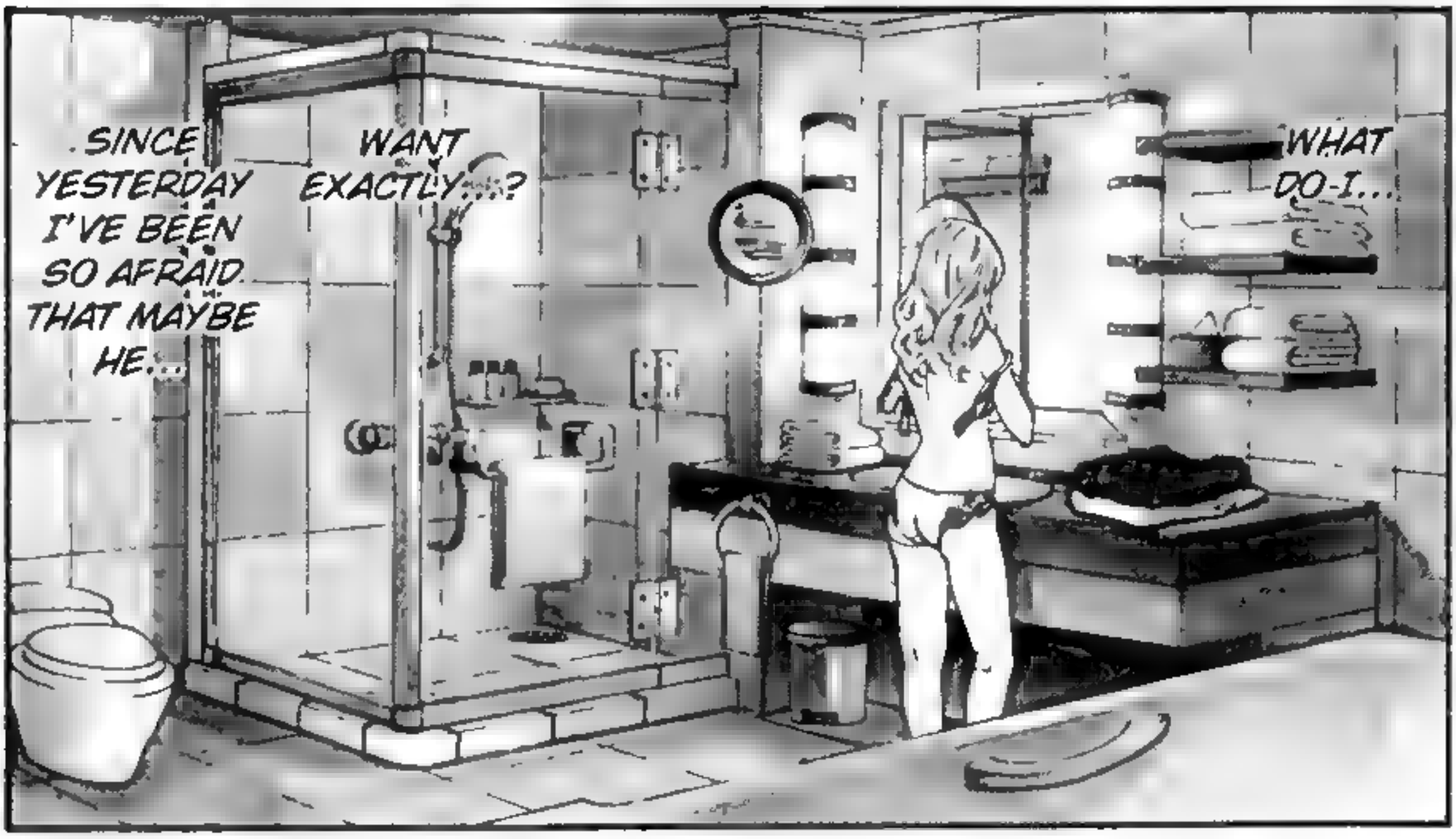
THANKS.

...

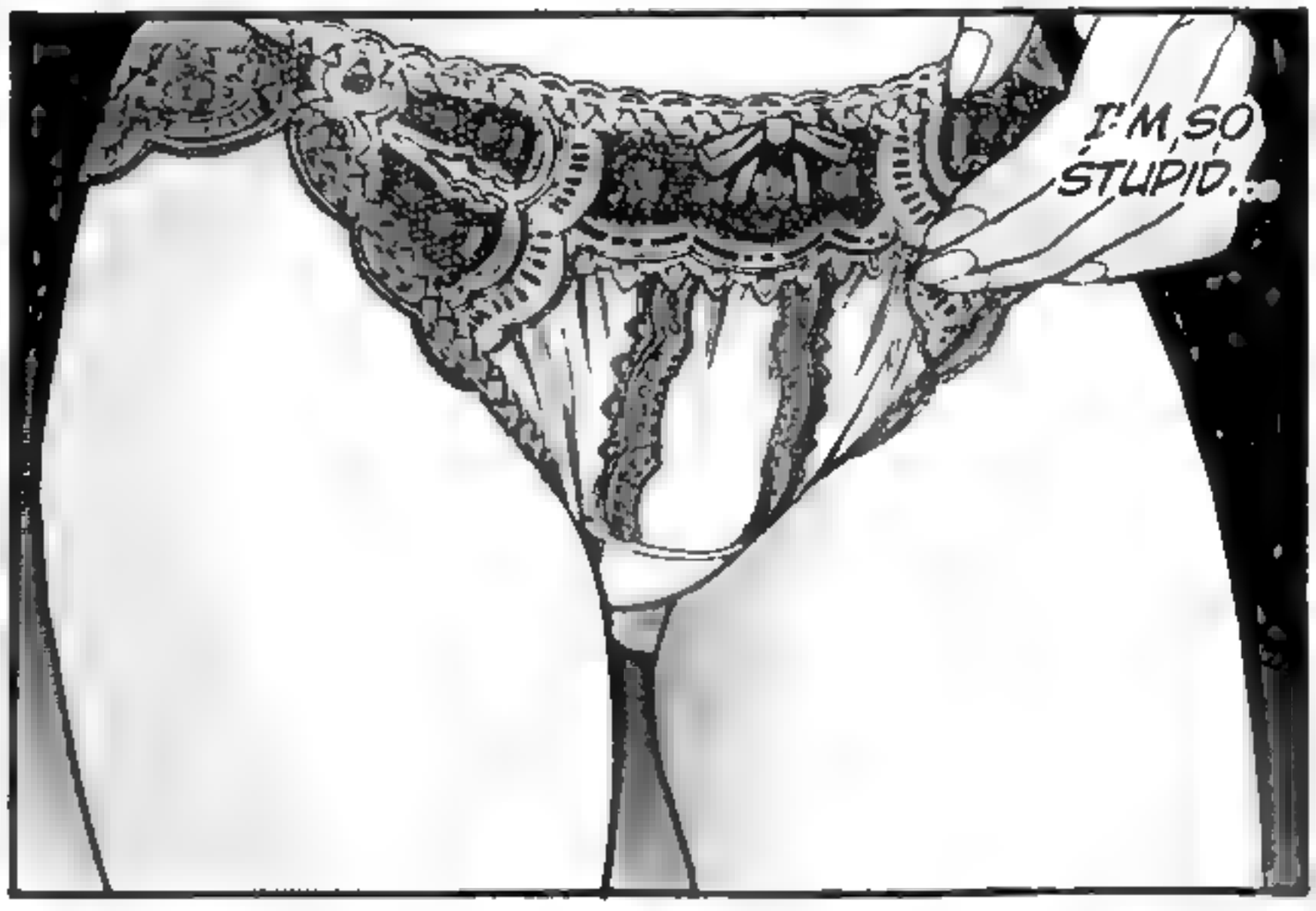
I WAS SO HAPPY...

FOR A SECOND THERE...

RIGHT...


SINCE YESTERDAY I'VE BEEN SO AFRAID THAT MAYBE HE...
WANT EXACTLY...?
WHAT DO-I...


THIS IS ENOUGH...


I'M SO STUPID...


DOES HE KNOW? ABOUT MY SORDID PAST...
... NO, WE'RE NOT... THERE'S NO EXCUSE FOR THIS.
IT'S A MIRACLE HE'D EVEN GO OUT WITH ME. WE'RE FINE LIKE THIS...

AND THIS SOILED BODY!

I'M FULLY AWARE OF THAT.

REALLY, WE SHOULD BREAK UP!!

KOUGA IS SO PURE AND INNOCENT. HE DESERVES BETTER THAN A FILTHY WHORE LIKE ME.

BUT... BUT...

I'D FALL TO PIECES...

IF I LOST KOUGA I'D...

BUT... I CAN'T DO IT!

ALL MY CARES AND WORRIES FADE AWAY...

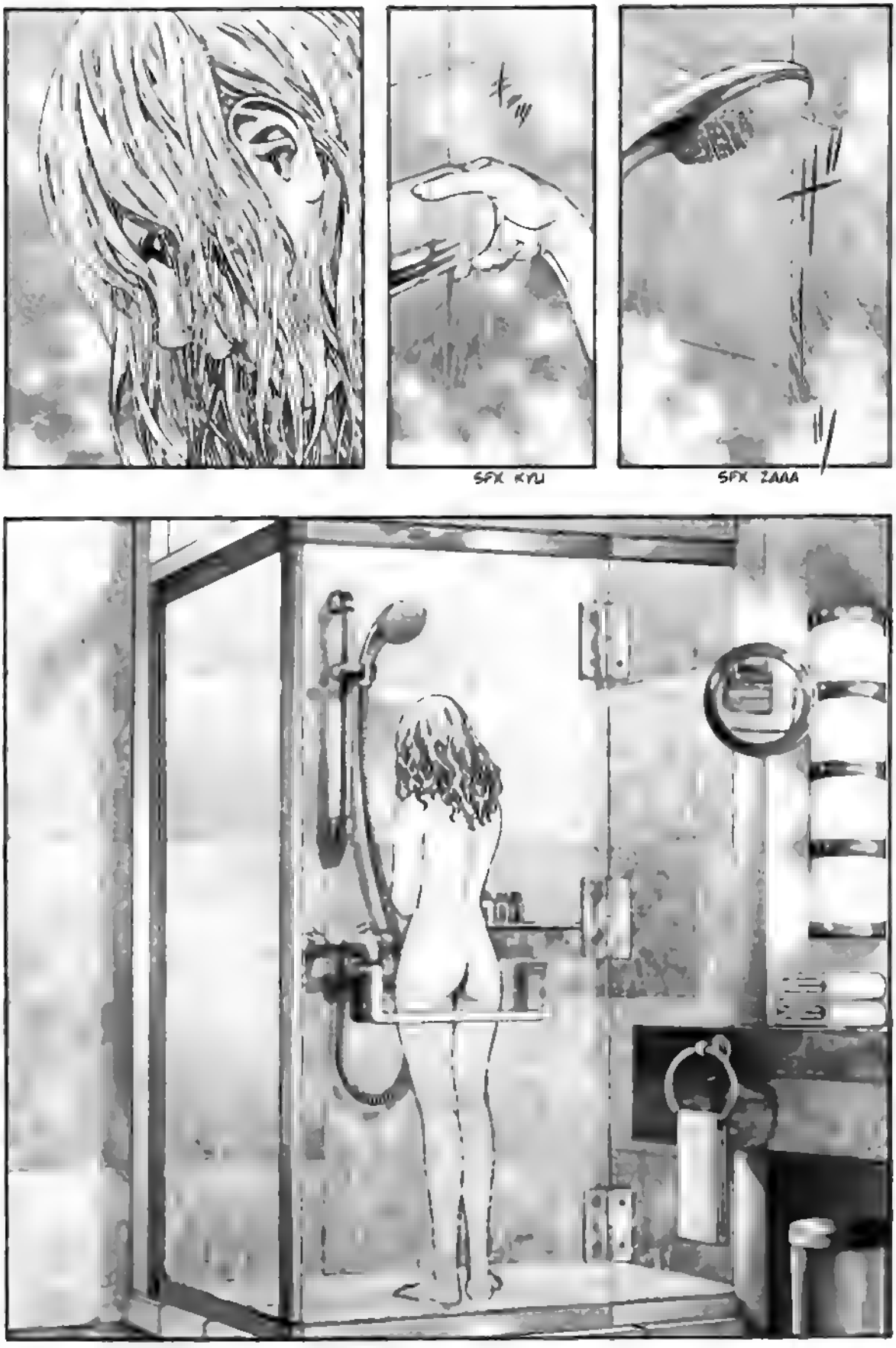
IT'S LIKE I CAN BE MY TRUE SELF...

IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS... WHENEVER WE'RE TOGETHER, MY HEART IS AT EASE...

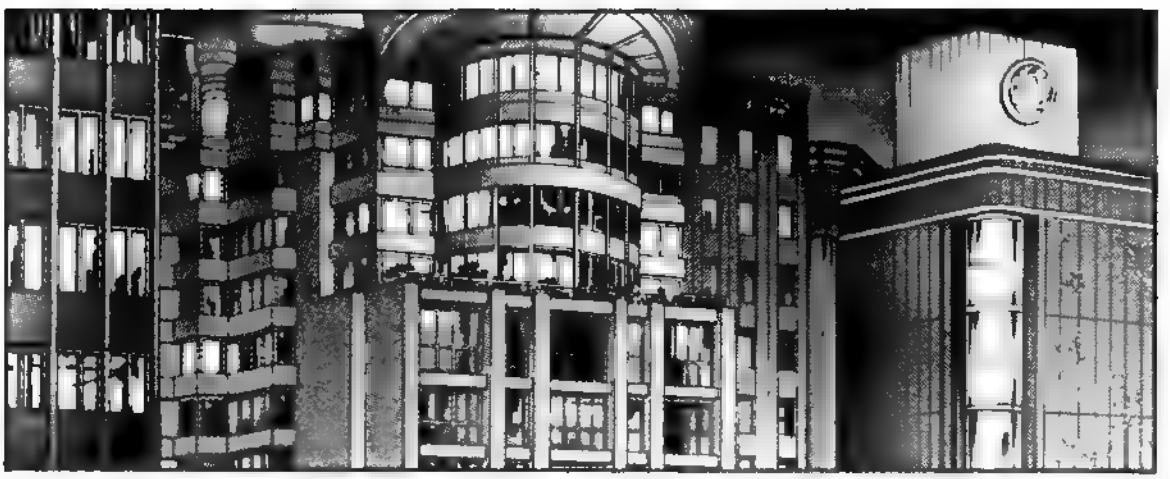
AH... IT'S STRANGE...

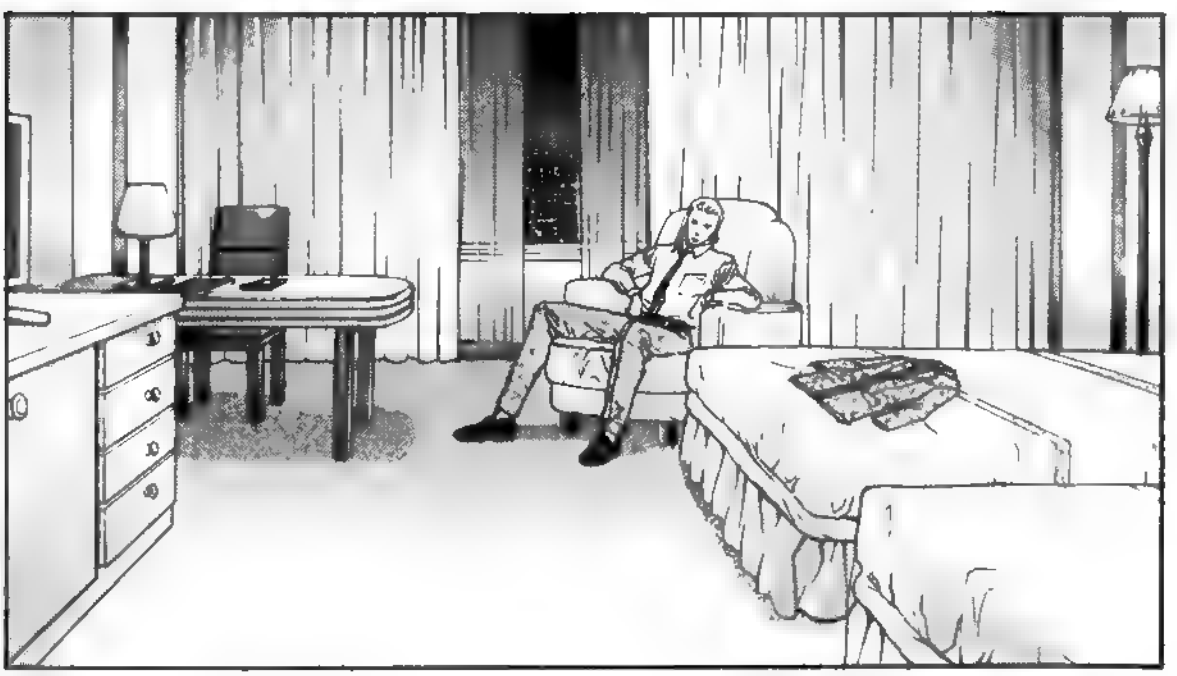
HOW IMPORTANT SHE IS TO ME...

AND SHE ALWAYS REMINDS ME.

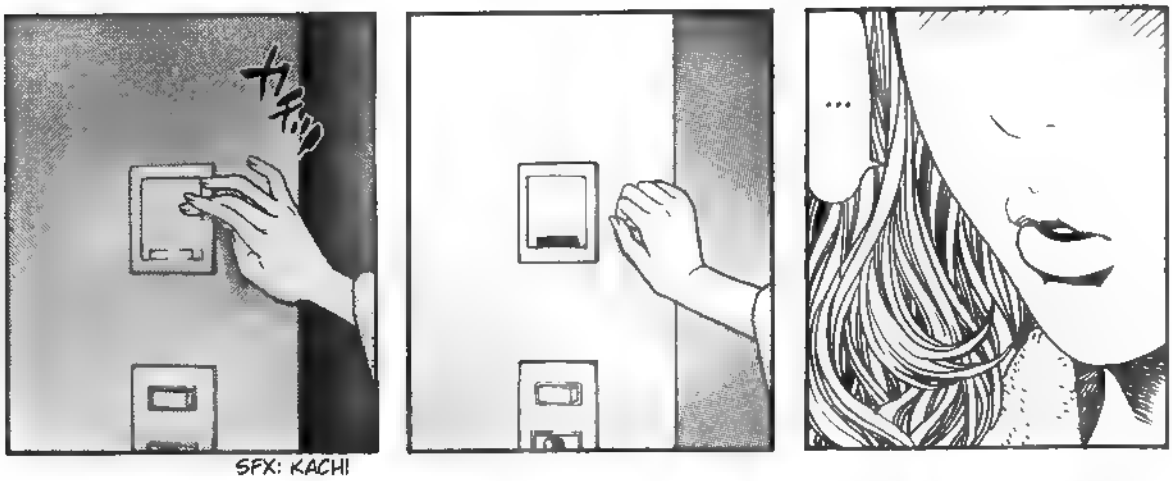

SFX KYU
SFX ZAAA

Chapter 155
(JIN & HANAKO)





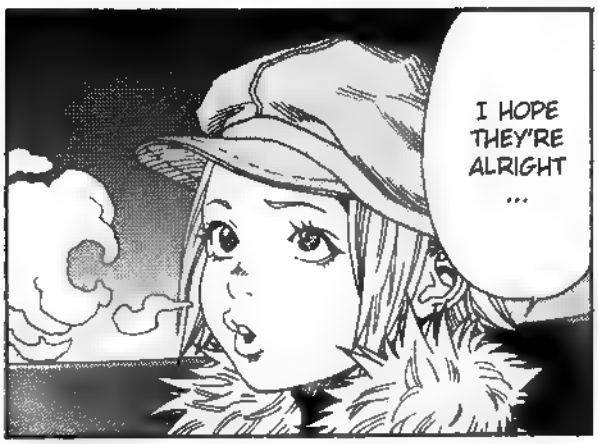




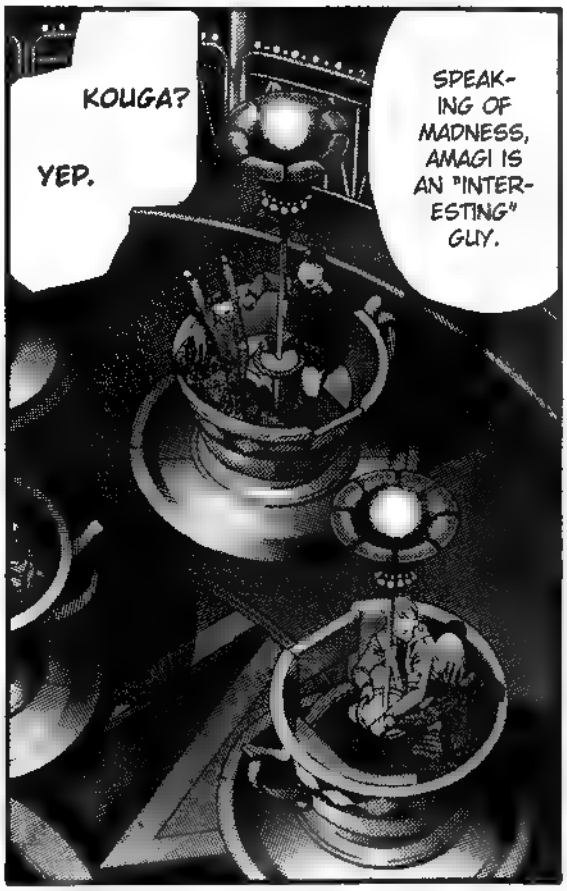
SFX: KACHI




PRETTY MAD HAVING JAPANESE FOOD ON CHRISTMAS EVE, HUH? THAT PLACE SEEMED EXPENSIVE TOO.
YOU OK FOR THE MONEY?
YEAH, DON'T WOR-RY.


I HOPE THEY'RE ALRIGHT ...


HM?


KOUGA?
YEP.
SPEAK-ING OF MADNESS, AMAGI IS AN "INTER-ESTING" GUY.


THEY SAY THEY'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR YEARS
DOESN'T LOOK IT THOUGH, DOES IT?
HASHIMOTO, SHE'S ABNORMALLY CAUTIOUS WITH HIM.


DID I MISS SOMETHING?
NAH ...
BUT ...
SHE ...


OR MAYBE YOU'RE JUST ABNORMALLY INATTENTIVE TO ME?


...
HAVE YOU HEARD OF DELICACY? YOU'RE SO RUDE!
YOU WHAT!? AS FUCKING IF!


WE SHOULD BE TALKING ABOUT US...
...
HEY... FORGET ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE.
SFX GURUN GURUN
SFX BAM
WH!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
SFX GURUN (7)


HEY!
HEY!
HEY!
HEY!
SFX ガガガガガガガ
OY!
OY!
OY!
OY!
OY!
OY!
DAMN
THAT'S ONE FUCKED UP MACHINE
...
I THOUGHT I COULD TAKE ANY ATTACK IN MY STRIDE ...
BUT THAT RIDE...
HEHE HEH.
THAT'S THE COFFEE CUP'S TRUE FORM

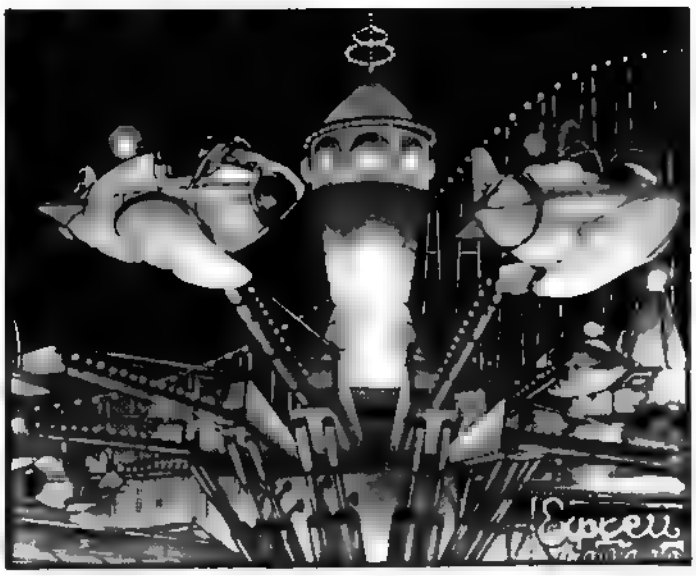

LIKE ABOUT BREAK-ING UP ...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA SAY SOMETHING WEIRD AGAIN.
HEHEHE!? WHY'D YOU DO THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN?
IT WAS FUN THOUGH!
WHEN I WAS A KID MY DAD USED TO SPIN ME LIKE THAT 'TIL I NEARLY SPEWED.
DUMB-ASS, IT'S NOT THAT!
MUM AND DAD.
I REALLY LOVED THEM BACK THEN...


SFX GOGOGOGOGO
SFX GOOOOOO





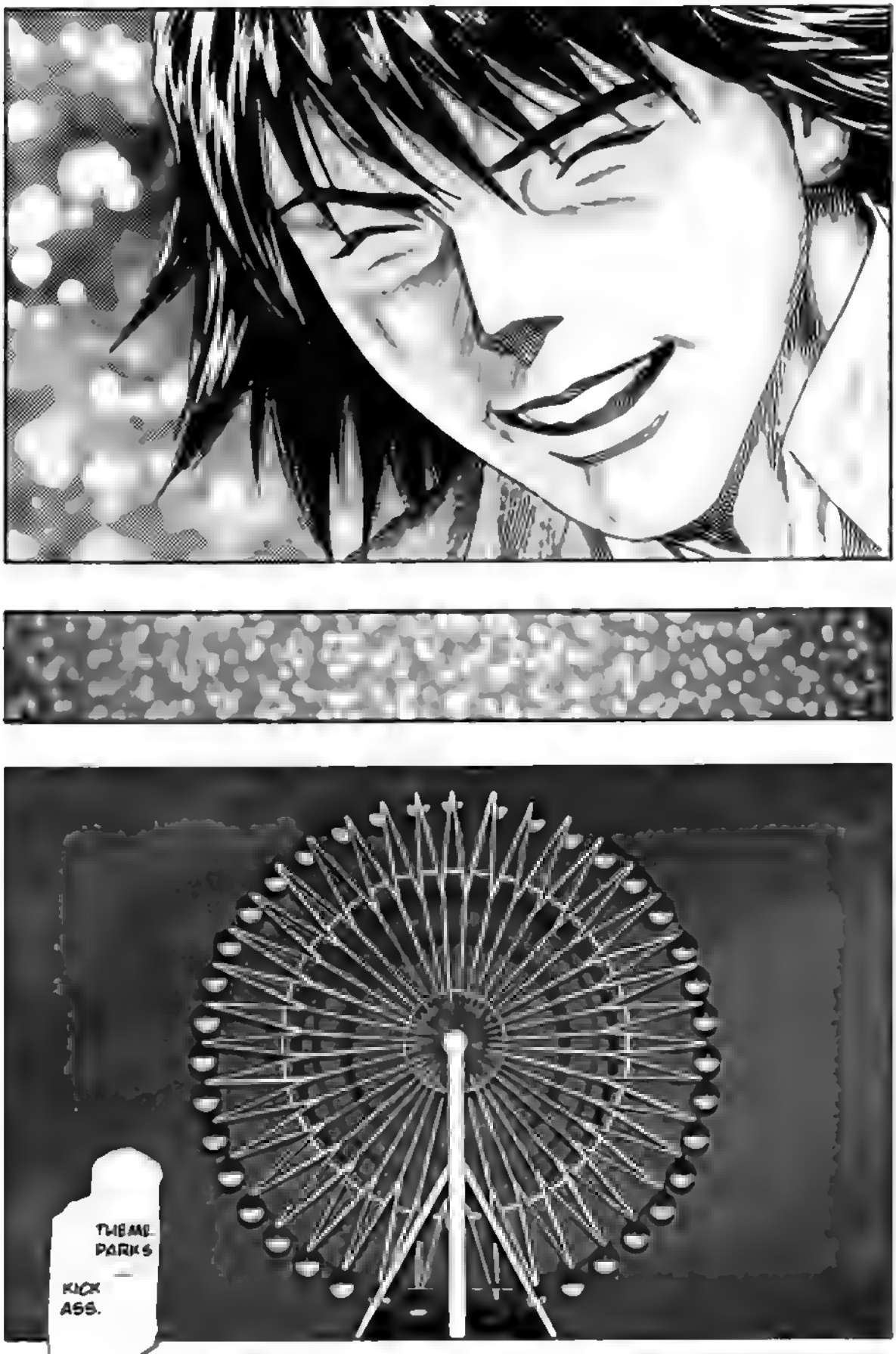










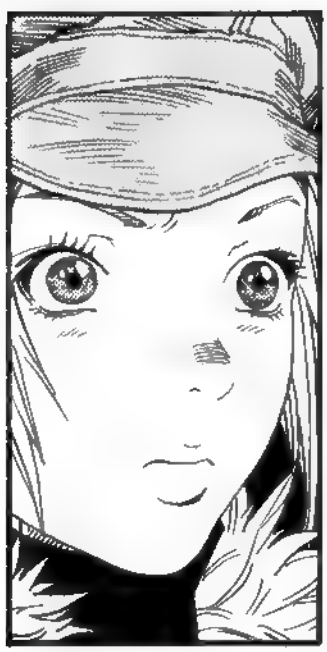

THEME PARKS
KICK ASS.


IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I LAUGHED THIS MUCH...
BUT, IT GETS EVERY-ONE HIGH.
THEY'RE ... FULL OF CHILDISH STUFF.
IT'S SPARKLING TONIGHT.
THIS GRIMY WORLD ...
HMPH.
IT'S PROBABLY COS YOU'RE WITH ME.
I DON'T THINK IT'S COS OF THE THEME PARK.


YEAH.
YOU'RE FUN TO BE WITH.


I WAS TRYING TO ASK YOU EARLIER ...


YOU'RE SO DIRECT ...
WH ...
WHA ...




YOU LEFT HOME AGAIN, DIDN'T YOU?




I'VE GOT THIS WEIRD ILLNESS RECENTLY.
SOMETIMES I HAVE MEMORY BLACK-OUTS.
SOUNDS LIKE I BEHAVE ODDLY WHEN IT HAP-PENS,
SO I MIGHT BE SOME TROU-BLE.
IF YOU'RE NOT UP FOR THAT I WON'T HOLD IT AGAINST YOU.
WHAT ...?
...
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY-WHERE TO GO THEN COME BE WITH ME.
LET'S LIVE TO-GETHER.





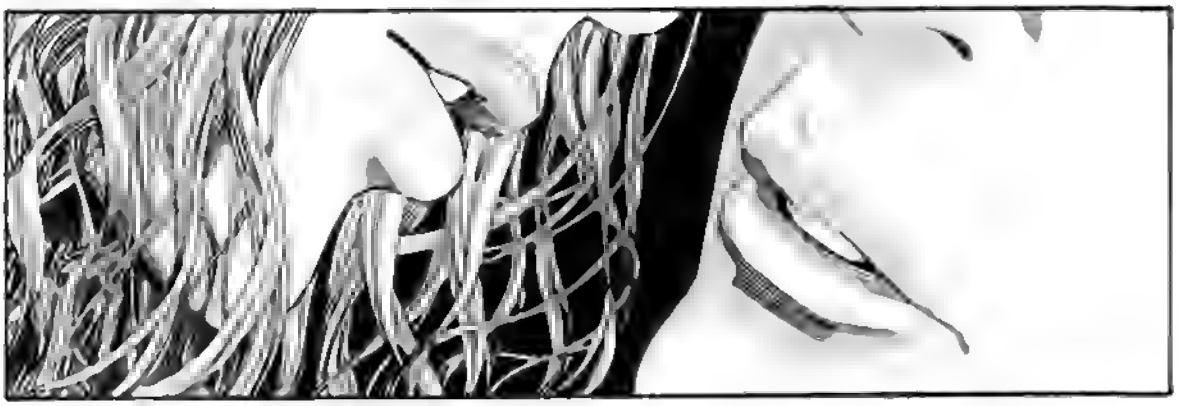



WHAT-EVER.
I'LL KISS YOU TO DEATH AT BED-EVERY TIME. NIGHT.


REALLY.


DON'T FEEL LIKE IT.


HOW ABOUT A KISS?



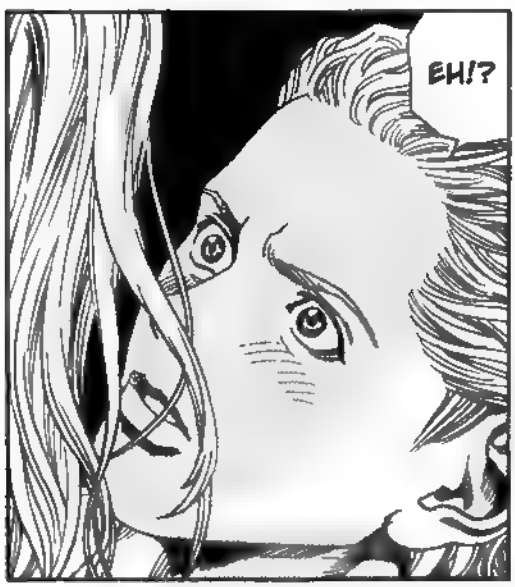





!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

Chapter 156
(TV-JACKED)








PLEASE ...
PLEASE.
JUST ...
THIS ONCE ...
...
SFX: BIKUN
HA.
SFX: SU

SFX: SHI-

HA.

HA.

HA.

SFX: BI-

IF NOT EMOTIONALLY THEN AT LEAST PHYSICALLY...!

I WANT TO BE CLOSER TO YOU—


ドクン
SFX: DOKUN
ドクン
SFX: DOKUN





Si—

SFX: BAH

STOP!

PLEASE, STOP IT...

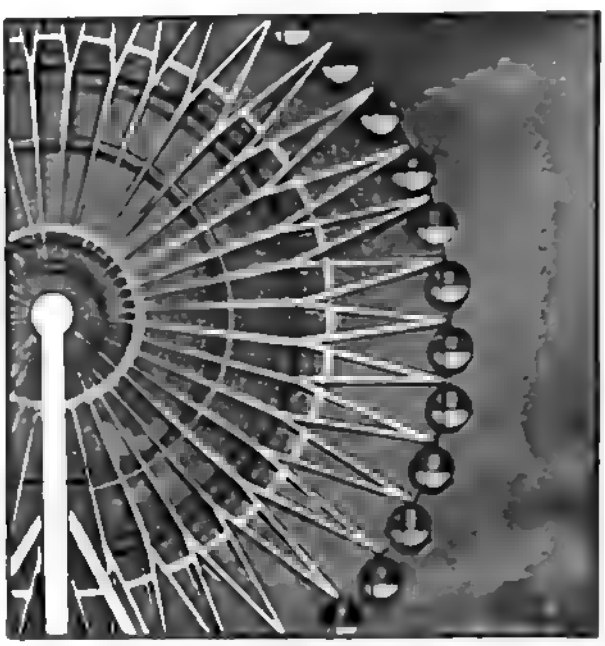
I CAN'T DO THIS STUFF ...


SFX. DOOOON
!
WHAT ...?






WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?




JIN! LOOK!
...
WHAT D'YOU RECKON? AN ACCI-DENT?

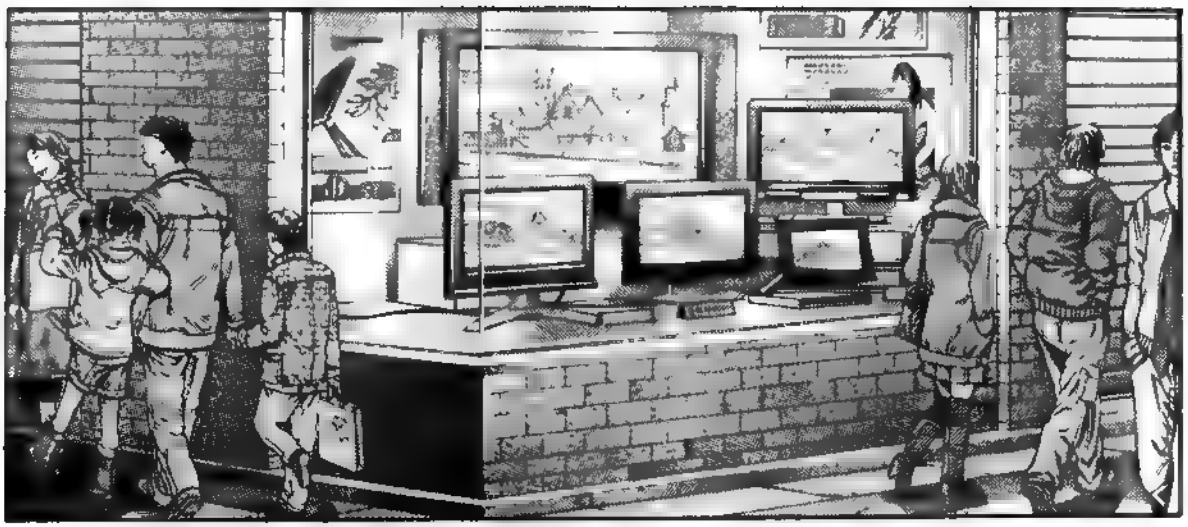

WE'LL BE FINE
AND IT LOOKS LIKE FUN I'M IN
NO WAY
IT'S PRETTY CLOSE LET'S GO TAKE A LOOK!


?
STAY WHERE YOU ARE

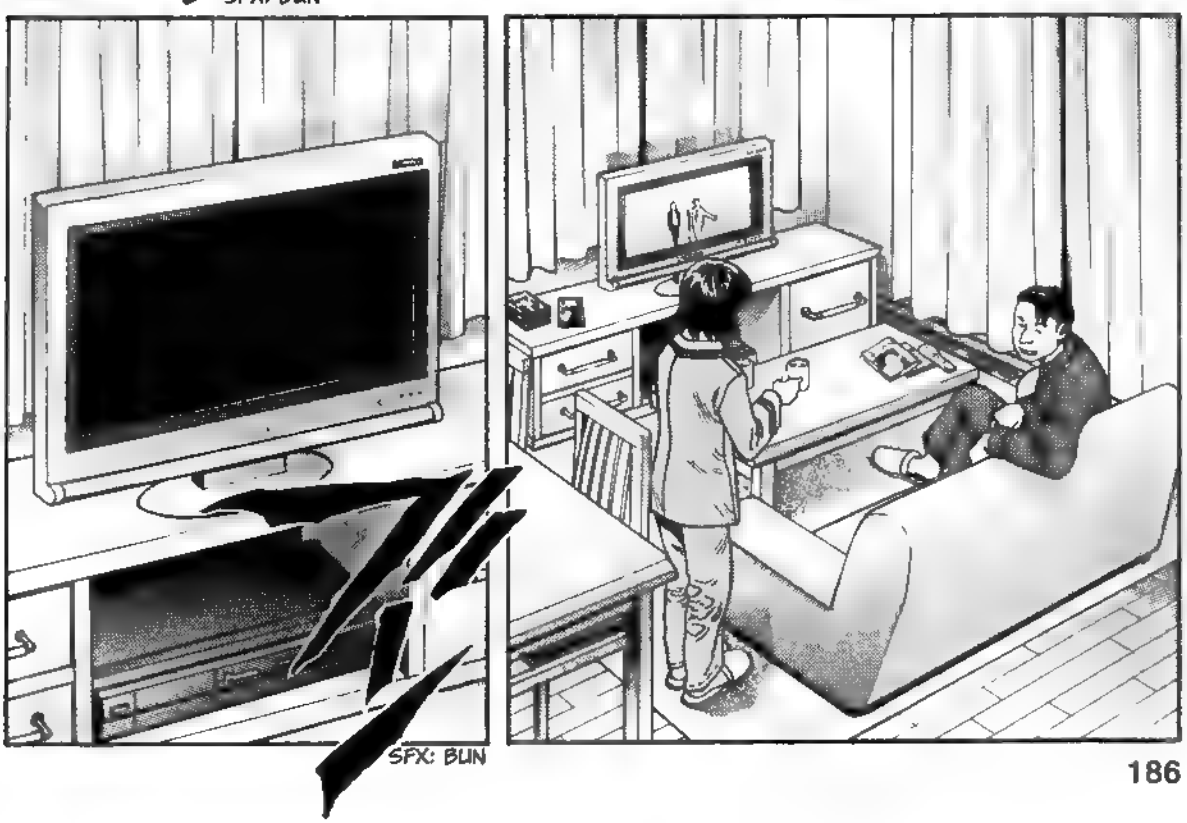

WOAH, COOL!


SFX. RUN






SFX: BUN


SFX: BUN


SFX: PIII-
!
!
SFX: BUN
YO.

HOW ARE YOU ALL TONIGHT, HUMANS? ENJOYING YOUR CHRISTMAS EVE, I TRUST?

GOOD.

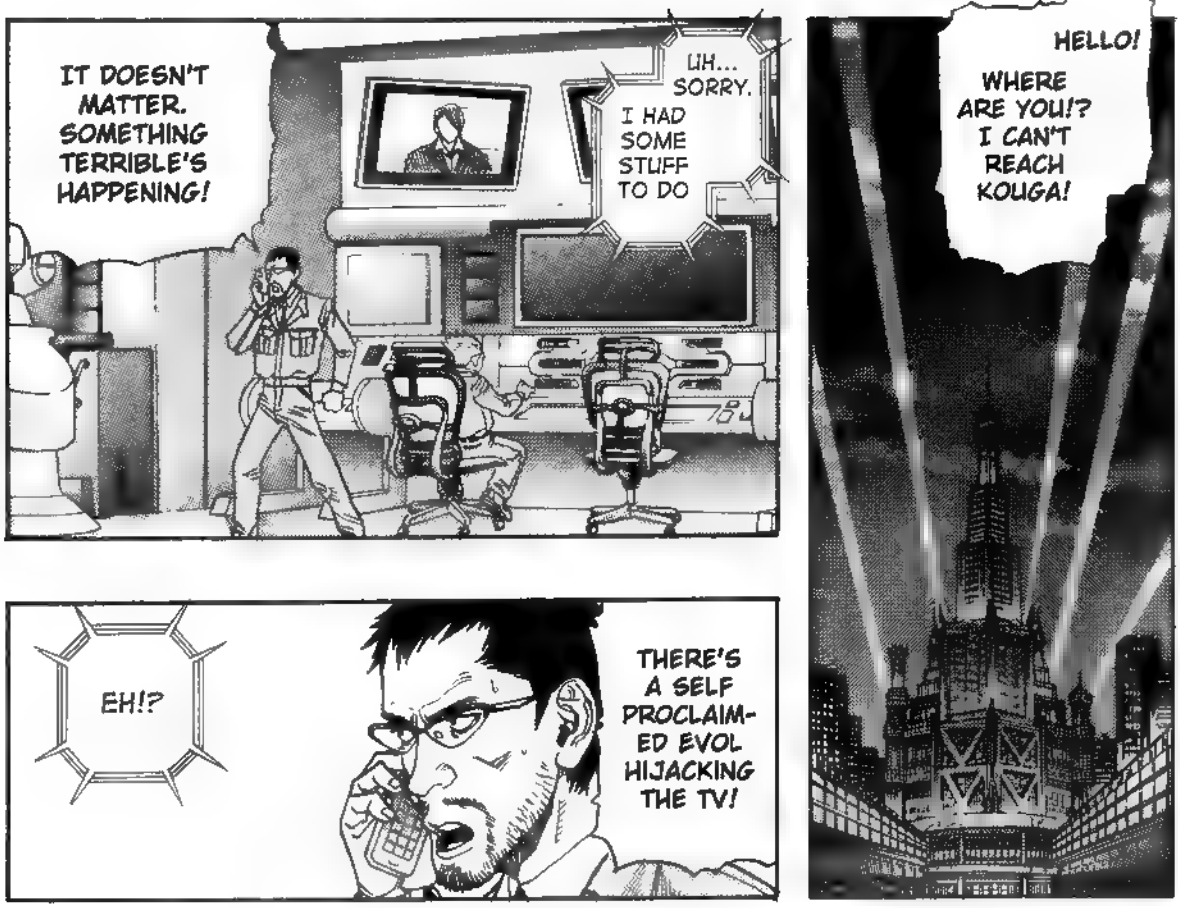
I'M INSISTING ON YOUR FULL ATTENTION SO FORCIBLY BECAUSE I HAVE SOMETHING INTERESTING TO TELL YOU.

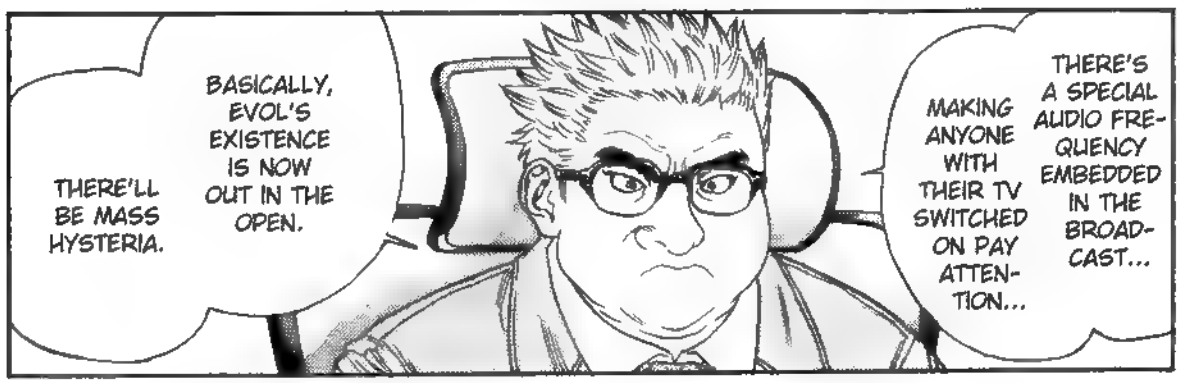

FIRST AN INTRO-DUCTION.
WE ARE EVOL. DESPITE APPEAR-ANCES, WE ARE NOT HUMAN
THE FUN FILLED YOUTH OF YOUR SPECIES ENDS TONIGHT.

ZETMAN

Part 5
WORLD DOMINATION




IT DOESN'T MATTER. SOMETHING TERRIBLE'S HAPPENING!
UH... SORRY. I HAD SOME STUFF TO DO
HELLO! WHERE ARE YOU!? I CAN'T REACH KOUGA!
EH!?
THERE'S A SELF PROCLAIMED EVOL HIJACKING THE TV!

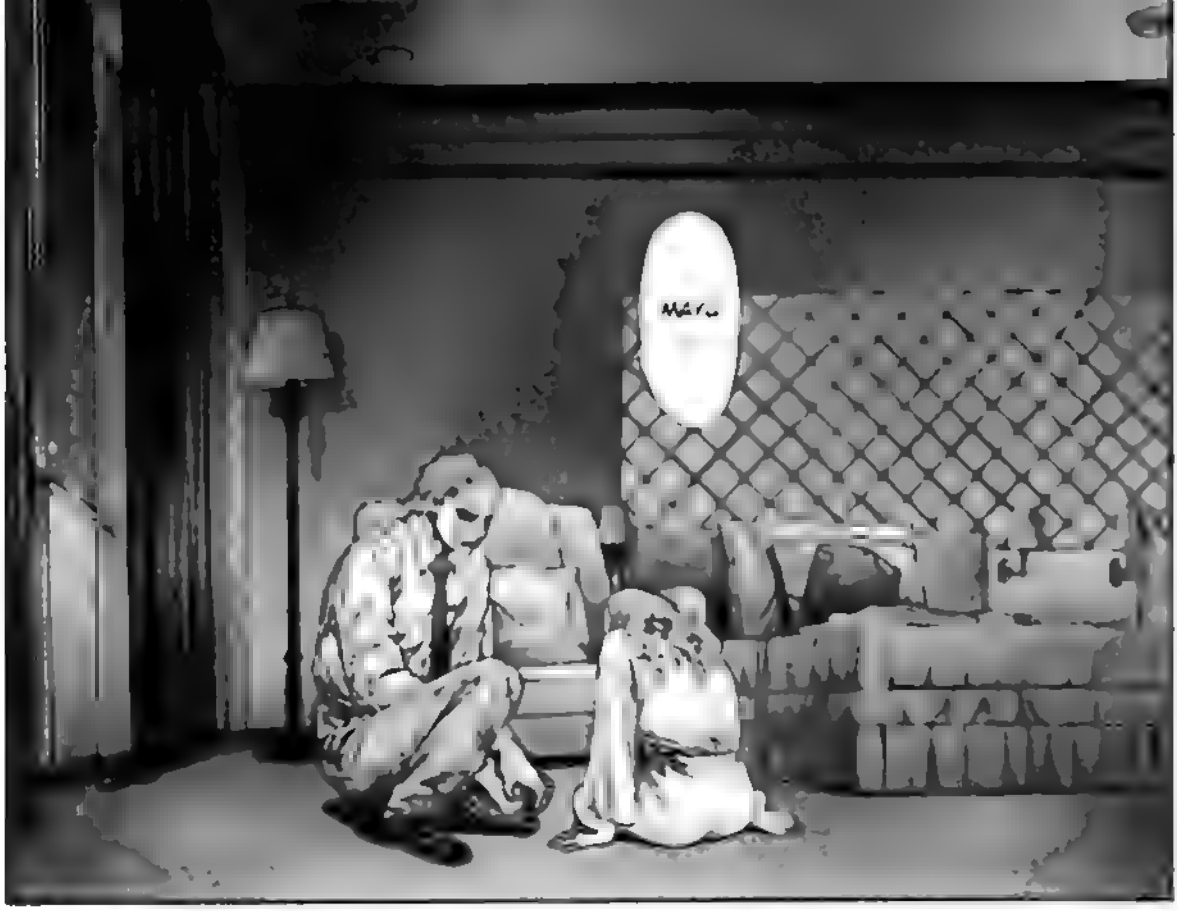

THERE'LL BE MASS HYSTERIA.
BASICALLY, EVOL'S EXISTENCE IS NOW OUT IN THE OPEN.
MAKING ANYONE WITH THEIR TV SWITCHED ON PAY ATTENTION...
THERE'S A SPECIAL AUDIO FREQUENCY EMBEDDED IN THE BROADCAST...


ARE YOU NEAR A TV? IF YOU ARE THEN TURN IT ON!
YOU HEAR THAT?
YEAH... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT THOUGH. WHY WOULD THEY SUDDENLY ...?



Chapter 157
(DECLARATION OF WAR)


WHAT!?
REALLY!?
NEVER MIND THAT, WE NEED YOU HERE!
EXPLOSION!? WHAT EXPLOSION?
IS THERE A CONNECTION TO THE RECENT EXPLOSION?
... ROGER THAT, I'M ON MY WAY.





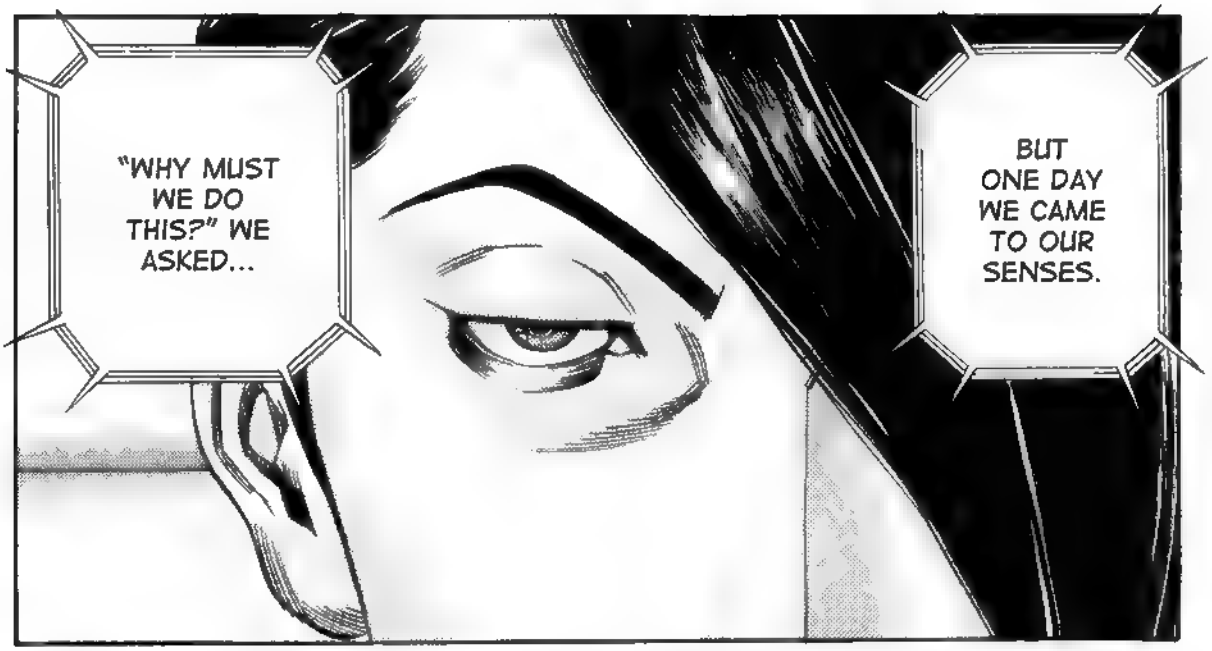



STAY HERE TONIGHT AND RELAX ...
YOU...
I HAVE TO GO...
SFX BATAN


FIRST FOR SOME EVOL HISTORY.
ALRIGHT ...


WE CAME INTO BEING 22 YEARS AGO, CREATED BY HUMAN HANDS.
THE REASON WE WERE MADE IS INCREDIBLY IDIOTIC.


AND THAT'S ALL.
THEY WANTED A SUPER COOL NEW TOY.
FOR HUMAN AMUSEMENT WE FOUGHT AND DIED POINTLESSLY DAY AFTER DAY.
THEY NAMED US PLAYERS AND THREW US INTO DEATH-MATCHES IN THIS ARENA.
NAH, IT'LL BE A FILM. SOUNDS EXPEN-SIVE.
A NEW TV SHOW?
WHAT IS THIS, AN AD?
SFX: ZAKU ZAKU ZAKU ZAKU


"WHY MUST WE DO THIS?" WE ASKED...
BUT ONE DAY WE CAME TO OUR SENSES.


WHY MUST WE LIVE IN THIS HELL?
DUNNO.
UH, WHY ARE WE WATCHIN' THIS?
WHY MUST WE BE THEIR PLAY-THINGS!?
DESPITE OUR SUP-ERIORITY OVER HUMANS IN EVERY WAY,

SFX: FUAAA


THAT'S WHEN WE GOT PISSED OFF.


WE CHOSE TO HAVE REVENGE ON THE HUMANS.
AND FOR THE RAGE THAT BUILT WITHIN US...
WE DECIDED ON AN OUTLET.


SO I'VE ARRANGED A SPECIAL SHOW RIGHT HERE FOR YOU.
BUT WHO'D BELIEVE A LINE LIKE THAT?
CLAP CLAP


I'M OUTTA HERE.
YEAH, YEAH, WHAT-EVER.











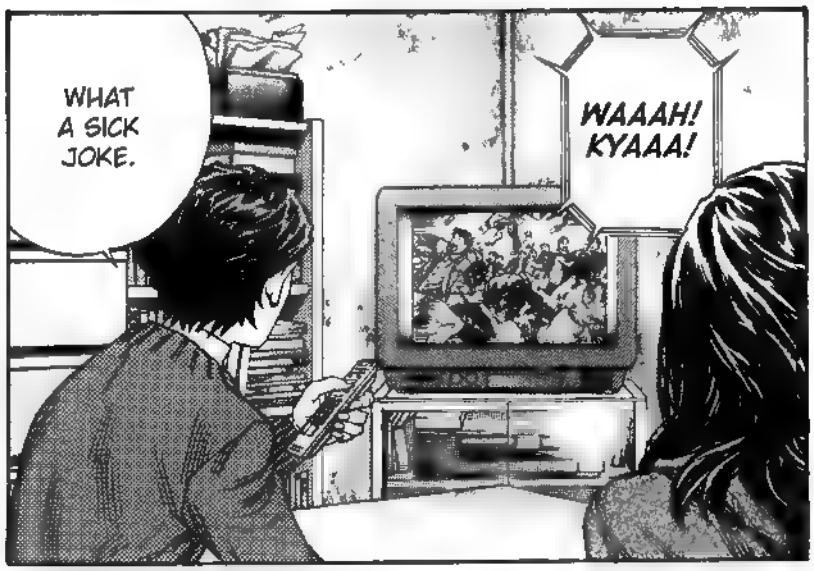


SFX: MEKI MEKI MEKI


ガブッ
ガブッ
ガブッ


AFTER ALL THAT ENFORCED PRACTISE, WE BECAME RATHER SKILLED.
SFX. GYAAA
AT SLAUGH-TER.
GYAAA!
WAAAH! HELP!









SFX: GATA GATA GATA


WAAAAH!
GYAAA!

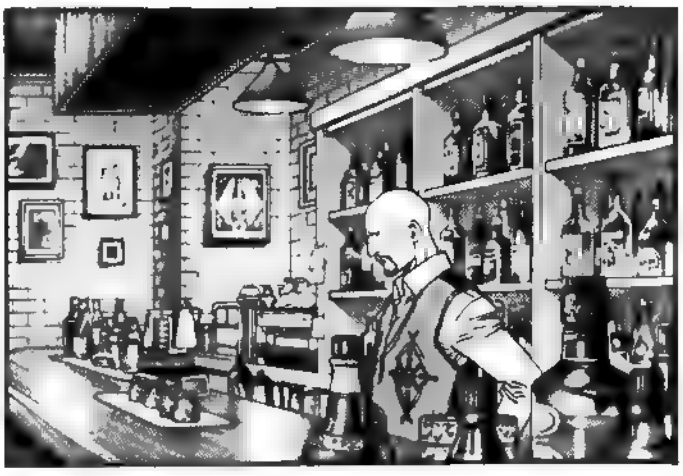

SOME-
BODY
SAVE ME!
EEEK!


Pi
Pi
Pi
Pi
Pi
SFX: SHUKO
CLICK
SFX: KACHI
SFX: SHAH
WELL? BELIEVE ME YET? DO YOU UNDER-STAND—
OUR POWER AND OUR RAGE?
HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAH!
TODAY IS NOTHING BUT AN INTRO-DUCTION. HELL IS STILL TO COME.


WELCOME


BAR
LOVE






HAITANI ...
WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING?

THESE HORRIFIC BEINGS ARE PLAYERS. WE REALLY HATED THAT NAME BY THE WAY. I MEAN, WE GOT IT WHEN WE WERE YOUR TOYS.

SFX. GNAAAH

SFX. GYAAAH

NOW WE CAN PROUDLY PROCLAIM WE ARE PLAYERS.

SHIT! WHY'S THE ROAD BLOCKED !?

BUT NOW THE STAGE HAS SHIFTED ABOVE GROUND. AND EVERY-THING HAS CHANGED.

SAVE ME!

AUDIENCE, WATCH ON HELPLESSLY AS YOUR REALITY IS BROUGHT CRASHING DOWN AROUND YOU!

UNTIL YOUR TURN COMES TO DIE!

HAHAHA HAH!

SFX: ZAAAH

Chapter 158
(DUMBFOUNDED AUDIENCE)

HOTEL EASTI

KOUGA!

?

WE SENT THE CAR AHEAD WHILE WE TRIED TO CONTACT YOU.

LUCKILY WE GUESSED AREA B AS A LIKELY SPOT FOR A DATE.

OH, IT'S ON REMOTE CONTROL. BUT THAT WAS SO QUICK!

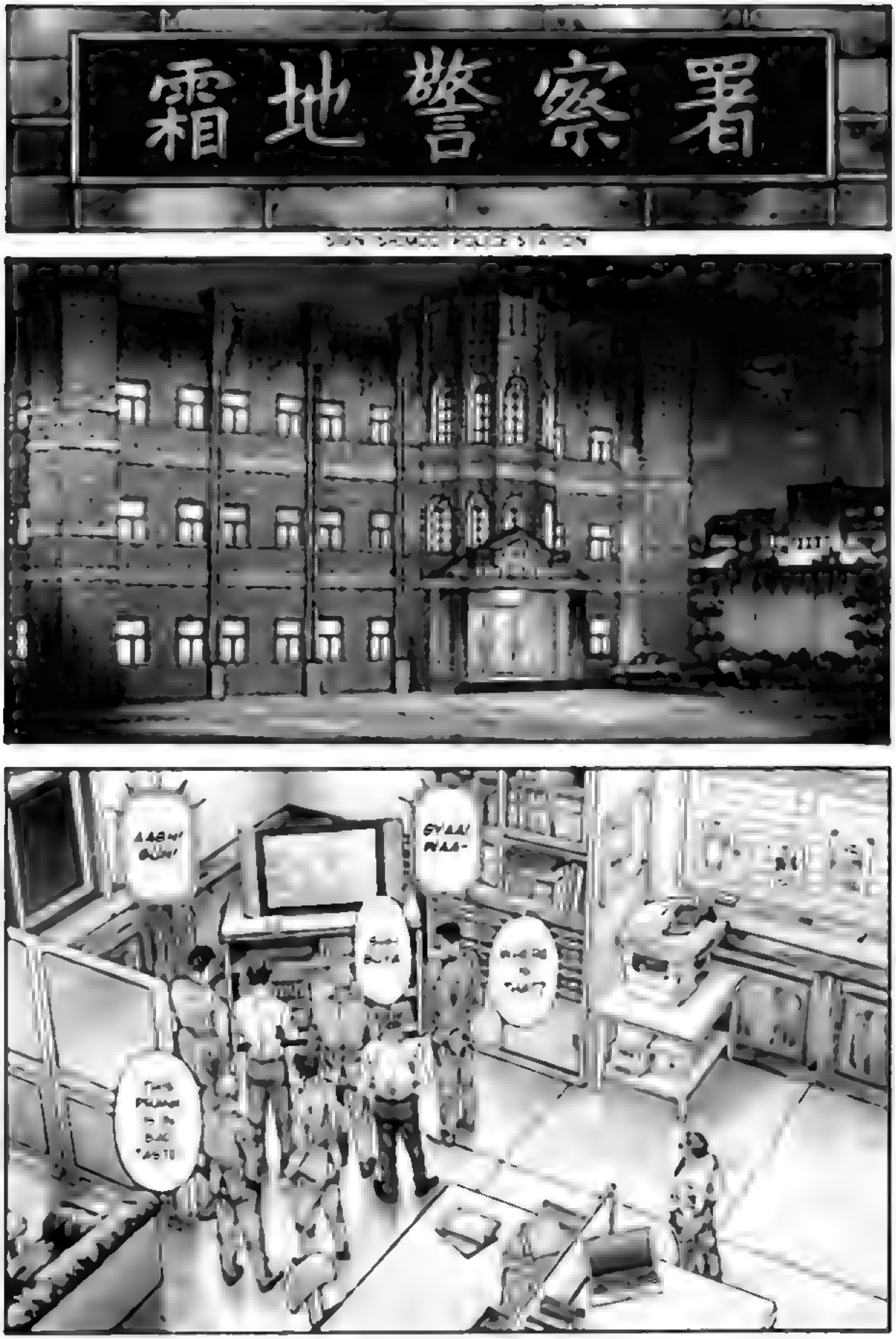
THE SUIT IS THERE IN THE VAN!

BUT FORGET THAT! QUICKLY — WE HAVE PLAYERS SIGHTED!

HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS ON A DATE?

IT'S CHRIST-MAS EVE.

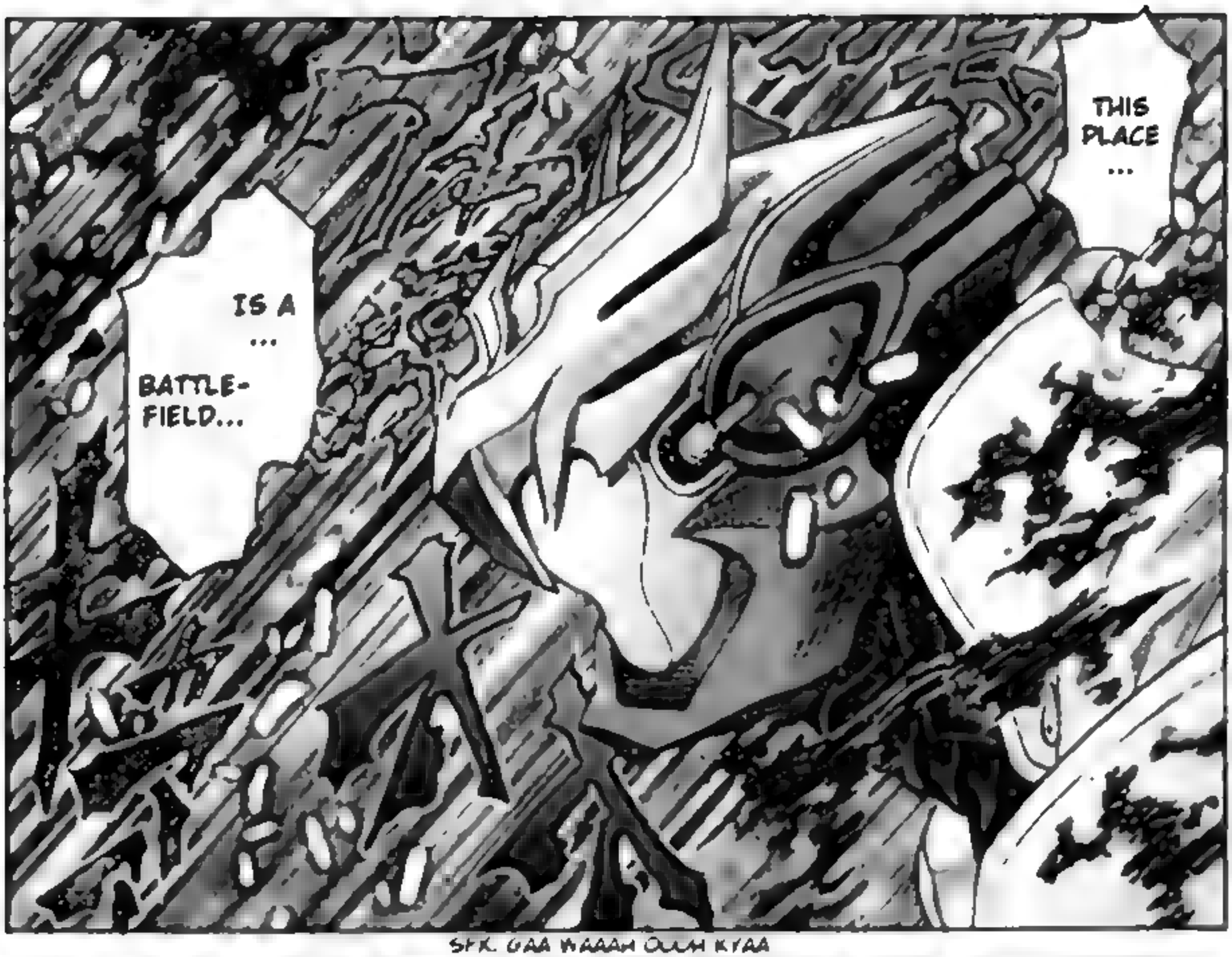

SFX DOWNJJ


霜地警察署

...

SFX: AAAAGH


SFX: DOH



SFX. GAA WAAAH OUUH KYAA



SFX. AAAUH GI-GI- GWAA OUUH GYAA IYAAA



SFX. GISHI

SIR.

ALRIGHT... HOME TIME.

DIDN'T I TELL YOU?

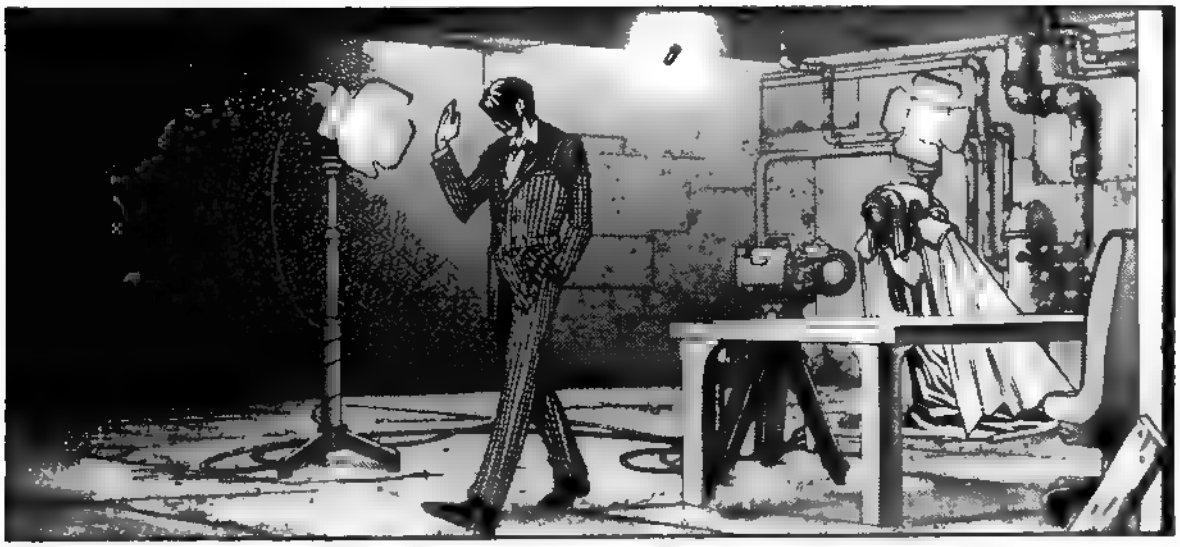
YOU REALLY ARE A WORRIER.

OUR LIVES MIGHT BE IN DANGER. IF WE WERE TO RUN...

I REALLY BELIEVE IT'S IN OUR BEST INTERESTS NOT TO RETURN TO HQ...

WE'RE CLEANING UP AFTER OUR-SELVES SO IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM. CHILL OUT.

SFX: KACHI





SFX: PI—



SFX: PIPIPIPI



SFX: PIPIPIPI



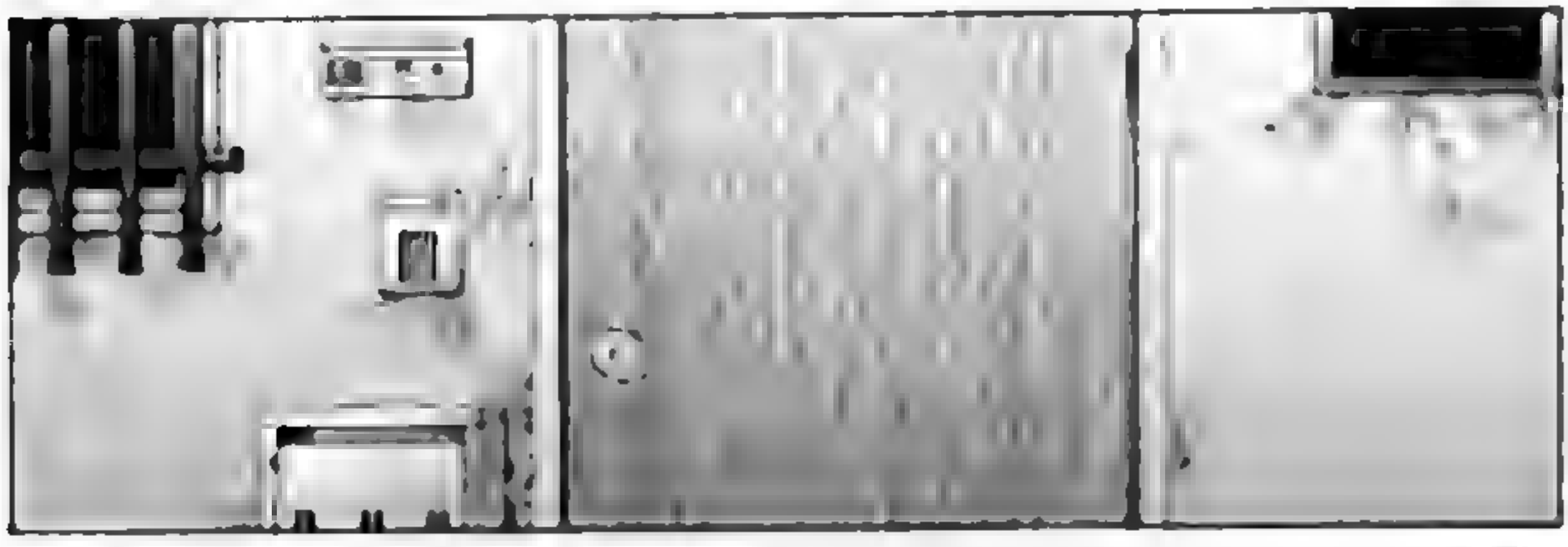
SFX: KATSU

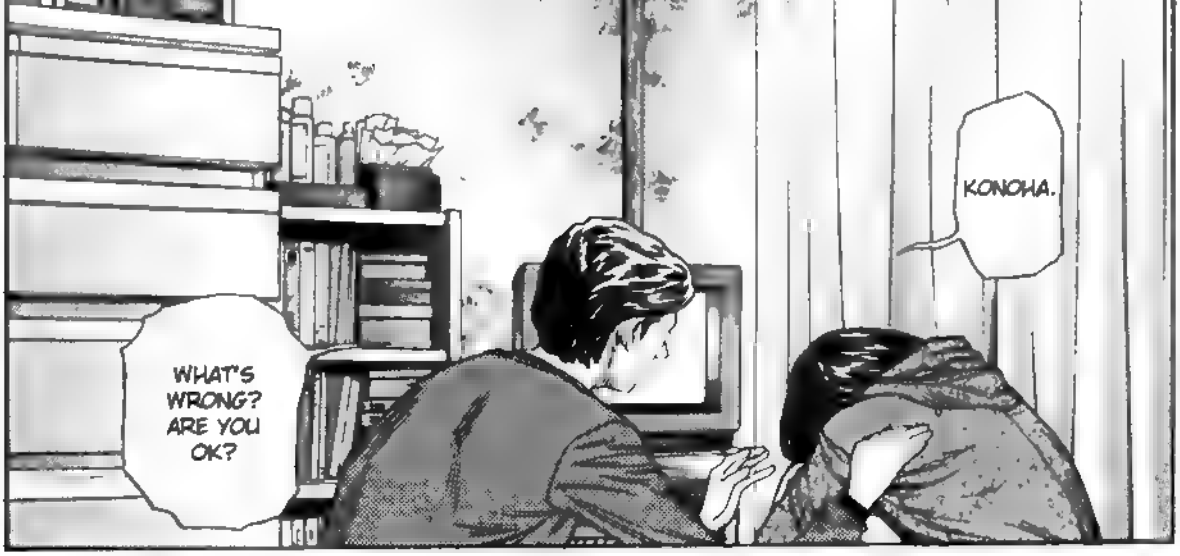

SFX: DODODO



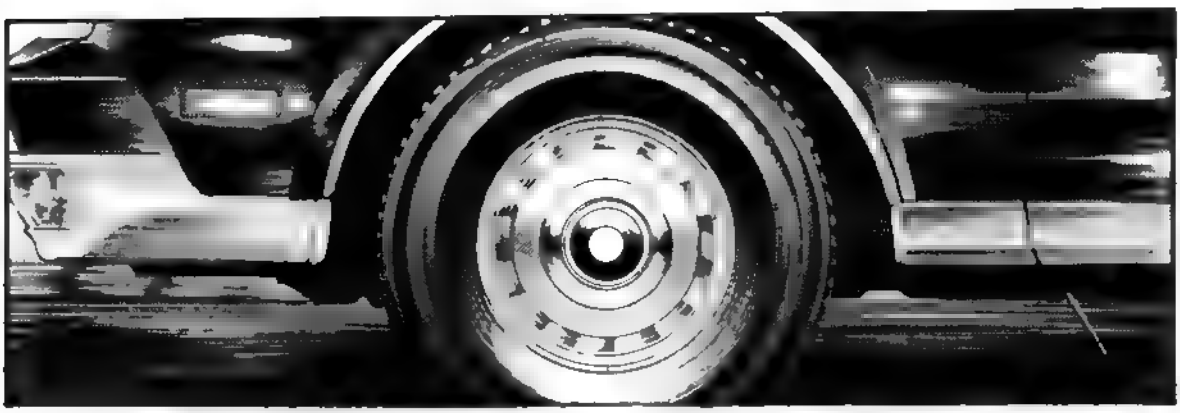







KONOHA.
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU OK?






WHAT A TROUBLING DEVELOP-MENT.
PRIME MINISTERS ARE ALWAYS THICK HEADED. NONE OF THEM WILL EVER LISTEN TO THE TRUTH.
THEY SIMPLY DELEGATE.
...
NOT AT ALL.
Prime Minister's residence.

To be continued

YOUNG JUMP COMICS
ZETMAN
13

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